



AGAWAM

Advertiser-News

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Volume XIX Number 6

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

February 8, 1996



A SCENE FROM "Annie" showing Lindsay Canuel as the orphan Molly.

Clark School's Lindsay Canuel Acting With National Touring Company

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Seven year-old Lindsay Marie Canuel of Agawam loves to model, sing, dance, and perform on stage, and she is doing all of these.

A second grader at James Clark School, Lindsay is on the road with National Touring Musical's production of the stage play "Annie." She has a large speaking part (the orphan, Molly) in the production about Daddy Warbucks and Orphan Annie.

The cast is giving approximately 60 performances in 33 cities of the Northeast and Midwest, going as far south to Arkansas.

Chaperone on the tour is Lindsay's mother, Gail Canuel, who is as energetic and enthusiastic as her daughter. Although Mrs. Canuel has had a lengthy business career, her avocation has always been dancing, she said in a recent interview.

Growing up in Agawam, Mrs. Canuel studied locally and enjoyed appearing in recitals and local theater. When Lindsay showed the same interests, Gail fostered them and the two appeared in several local productions, including a Stage Door production of "42nd Street."

Friends commented on Lindsay's looks and talent and urged Mrs. Canuel to take her to New York. She did, registering Lindsay with John Casablanca Model Agency and the Schiller Talent/N.Y. Kids Manhattan Agency.

Since July, Robert Marks of New York has been Lindsay's voice teacher. Before that, she studied voice with Stephen Cirillo and Margaret McKerr-

row of Agawam. Mrs. McKerrrow also taught Lindsay piano and she attended Anita's Dance Center West Side Dance. She has won 61 trophies for excelling in local talent pageants.

As a model, Lindsay has appeared in print for such companies as Disney's "Family Fun Magazine," Toys "R" Us, Milton Bradley, and Caldors. She has been in television commercials for NYNEX, the Wang Center, First National Bank of N.H., Spirit of Springfield, and Puzzle Works.

She has appeared in industrial films for Avis Car, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and Zippy and Friends. Back on the stage, Leslie played the part of Jane in "Finnian's Rainbow," and Feldspar in "Enchanted Princess" (off Broadway).

Lead Role In Woody Allen Film

The charismatic young actress has finished filming a lead role in a Woody Allen Feature Musical film, which Gail says is scheduled to be released in the fall. It has not yet been titled.

Hired December 1st for the "Annie" tour, Lindsay had three weeks of rehearsal before hitting the road. She spent Christmas and New Year's in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, giving eight performances in that area. Six shows were staged in Portland, Maine, New London, Connecticut, Sugar Loaf, New York, and Uniontown, Pennsylvania. The troupe appears in theaters, civic and art centers, and colleges.

SEE LINDSY - Social Section...

School Committee Meets To Discuss Audit Of Bookkeeping Procedures

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

No formal vote was taken, but School Committee members seemed to have reached a consensus on how to revamp their budget process.

At a workshop session Tuesday night, committee members met to discuss the results of an audit of School Department spending practices.

Superintendent of Schools Bernard F. Ryder said he would recommend the committee adopt a style of budget that will give administrators maximum flexibility to transfer funds within categories. It will also give the School Committee more detailed information on how the money is being spent, according to him.

Clean-Up The Cracks

It's very important to clean-up the last cracks in our budget format," Ryder said. "This plan will be more understandable and serviceable to all parties - the School Department, the School Committee, and the public."

With the new spending plan, the school district is moving toward site-based management as provided by the state's Education Reform law, Ryder said.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said the audit found that School Committee policy allowing the superintendent to transfer from one account to another, without prior approval of the School Committee, was in violation of state law.

What the audit didn't find was any financial impropriety in how the funds were spent, Johnson said.

"Year after year I have been saying the transfer policy was not in compliance with state law, but the committee has seen fit to approve year-end transfers," added Johnson, who is also chairman of the committee.

Based on information from the Mass. Depart-

ment of Revenue, Associate Superintendent of Schools Donald Charest said he had been working under the assumption that the line items contained in each cost center were for informational purposes.

Therefore, Charest said, transfers could be made within the cost centers.

"The Best Of Both Worlds"

After describing several budget styles the committee could choose in revamping its budgeting practices, Johnson said a category budget with line items for informational detail offered "the best of both worlds."

The new plan will have fewer cost centers and will more accurately reflect spending within a school building. Administrators will have the

SEE WORKSHOP - Page 2...

Leonard House Seeks Many New "Friends"

February is "Friends Months" at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Agawam's most historic home, located in Agawam Center next to Westfield Savings Bank.

The Captain Charles Leonard House was built in 1805 and is on the National Historic Register.

The Leonard House serves as a community meeting facility for many clubs and organizations, as well as for private functions, and is operated by a board of trustees comprised of members of the community. Richard Brindle is the long-time trustee chairman.

Donations are being sought to maintain the historic beauty and charm of this important community facility. Become a "Friend of the Leonard House" today. Send your donation to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam, 01001.

Fire Assistance Fund Set-Up For Family

Due to a fire on Thursday, February 1st, at Shibley Court Apartments on Norman Terrace in Feeding Hills, a fire assistance fund has been established for the Wallace Family at the Agawam branch of Springfield Institution for Savings (SIS).

Mr. & Mrs. Wallace and their three children, ages 6, 4, and 18-months, have been able to obtain temporary housing at Shibley Court Apartments until their old apartment can be renovated, through the generous cooperation of the owner of the apartment complex.

The family has lived at Shibley Court for the past 10 years and all of their possessions were lost in the blaze, which was answered by the Agawam Fire Department at 10:23 a.m.

The family received immediate assistance from other family members and from the American Red Cross. The family lost one cat and three kittens but there were no injuries to Mr. & Mrs. Wallace or the children.

If you are interested in offering some support to the family, please send your donation to SIS, c/o The Wallace Family Fire Fund, 40 Springfield Street, Agawam, 01001.



AGAWAM FIREFIGHTERS put out the February 1st blaze that completely gutted the home of the Wallace Family at Shibley Court Apartments in Feeding Hills. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

WORKSHOP MEETING - from Page 1...

authority to transfer funds from one line item to another within the categories.

In addition to recommending a new style of budget, Johnson said he will draft a resolution calling for more detailed reporting of School Department spending.

"One thing we need to do is improve reporting so that we're aware of what's going on on a regular basis," Johnson said.

The new reporting system features monthly financial reports that show how much has been spent, how much is encumbered, and how much is left in each cost category.

Johnson said he will recommend that the School Department establish a reserve fund in order to pay for unanticipated costs. Typically, cost overruns in Special Education and transportation have been covered by freezing spending on all non-salary accounts and transferring the funds.

"The freeze problem illustrates the need for a reserve fund," Johnson said. "It's impossible to know in February or March what some expenses will be."

Johnson's budget proposal is expected to appear under new business at the committee's February 13th meeting.

Please remember our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime. We open at 6:30 a.m. We appreciate copy on Monday!

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

Beware Of Faulty Carbon Monoxide Detectors

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has issued the following warning on two carbon monoxide detectors.

The Commission is urgently warning consumers that approximately 18,700 SC-01 carbon monoxide (CO) detectors imported and distributed by Sinostone Corporation of Wood Dale, Illinois, may fail to alarm. As a result, consumers could be exposed to dangerous levels of carbon monoxide—a colorless, odorless toxic gas which could lead to serious injury or death.

The Sinostone detector is rectangular, grey, plastic, and measures approximately 5.5 inches long, 3.2 inches wide, and 1.5 inches deep, with vertical vents and the word "Accusniffer" on the front of the detector. It has a white cord and plug and a battery back-up system.

The second detector is a Revco, "Gas Sniffer" model number 840. It is rectangular, tan, plastic, and is approximately 3.5 inches wide by four inches tall by 1.5 inches deep. It has horizontal and vertical vents and the words "Gas Sniffer" on the front. The CPSC advises owners to send the unit back to Revco Products, 5622 B Research Drive, Huntington Beach, California, 92649.

For further information, call the CPSC at (800) 638-2772.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15, 1996 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Ladizki for a revision to the Definitive Subdivision Plan of Centerwood Meadows. The proposal is to re-name Arlie Drive to Calico Lane.

By Order of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

Published: February 8, 1996

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*Source: 1994 Nationwide Survey of Homeowners. Survey included 1,800 homeowners nationwide with a random sample of homeowners from across the USA and was conducted January 5-17, 1994 by The Nielsen Group. Results of this survey have a 95% confidence interval of ±2.2%. Homeowners were asked: "Thinking about the different real estate sales organizations, which one would you say is the best at helping people sell their homes?"

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Friday And Saturday, 4:00-10:00



AHS Does Indeed Have Many Things To Be Very Proud Of

To The Editor:

I begin this letter with mixed emotions. However, I feel that it is essential to respond to some of the negative comments made about Agawam High School in the February 1, 1996 edition of *The Agawam Advertiser*.

Those comments, unfortunately, have proceeded to insult and demoralize a good portion of the student body, teaching staff and the administration of Agawam High School. All the good things that go on in the school do not seem to matter.

Agawam High School happens to have very good teachers for the most part, highly successful academic programs, an excellent music program, outstanding athletic teams, top notch journalism and yearbook programs, and very positive and productive clubs and organizations. The high school also has a new team of motivated and professional administrators who are determined to improve the school.

What a shame to tarnish and diminish all this! I will be the first to admit that the high school is not a perfect place. I fully realize that many things need to be improved.

I am assuming that my administrative predecessors in concert with the former department heads, in the spirit of cooperation and professionalism, have taken the proper steps to improve upon the MEAP scores. They have had almost two years to do so. If they haven't done enough, the new administration will do its best under the circumstances.

Unlike those who fear the loss of accreditation, I do not share those fears. Many changes have been made since the original accreditation report and more will be made to assure accreditation.

Violence, drugs and lack of respect are problems at the high school. The administration is doing several things about this. Greater police cooperation and the creation of a new discipline system based on respect, responsibility and consequences are in the works. Hopefully the community has the courage and conviction to support the administration in this endeavor.

Security is also being focused on. A high school that is our size with its behavioral problems needs to have security. This has resulted in a request for a security officer in the administrative budget.

I have asked the School Committee and Superintendent Ryder to create a professional employee code. This code is not unlike what many businesses require of their employees.

System wide, more things need to be done. I am positive that technology will be updated. I am hopeful that a greater commitment will be made to a deeper system-wide organization of curriculum and instruction and professional development.

As far as I am concerned, it is easy to criticize or point the finger of blame at the high school in the newspaper or through other means. That is a citizen's prerogative. I invite those in the community who truly care to come to the high school

in order to obtain a more accurately informed view of the school's positives and negatives.

I also feel that it is important to remind people that a school's educational success or failure depends on many factors. To only look at one facet or aspect reveals a deep misunderstanding of something so complex as education.

Sincerely,
Joseph Zabielski
Acting Principal
Agawam High School

"Mutual Respect" Is Vital Between Agawam & Business

To The Editor:

Mr. Bolduc says he feels thwarted in his efforts to get the permits necessary to expand his Pride Station/convenience store business in Feeding Hills Center. It is reported that he seeks the cooperation of those city agencies that must grant the necessary permits for his drive-through expansion.

In his expansionary efforts over the past few years, it must now be apparent to Mr. Bolduc that there is widespread, very strong public sentiment toward preserving the colonial historic character of the area in which his business is located. What his neighbors and customers are attempting to preserve and protect, he might also recognize as an asset to his business and a protection to his existing and future customer base.

It appears to us that these agencies are doing precisely what they were created to do. That is, they are looking after the long-range interests and concerns of the community as a whole in the exercise of their permit-granting authority.

Mr. Bolduc's neighbors and customers, the Historical Commission, and the agencies themselves have requested that he offer a revised plan more in keeping with the colonial style of the neighborhood. We suspect that if he were to be more sensitive to the concerns of the community and cooperate by offering such a revised plan, he would increase the probability of their reciprocal cooperation in obtaining the permits he requires.

Our experience is that Agawam is very supportive of small and expanding business and is most willing to work with them cooperatively when there is mutual respect for both the interests of the business along with the interests of the community.

John & Sasha Zebryk
Agawam

Expansion In Feeding Hills Should Enhance Its Look

To The Editor:

Once again, Feeding Hills Center is targeted for expansion. Those of us who live nearby and experience the volume of traffic several times a day wearily respond.

While I do not think we need an expanded business on this already super-busy corner, as usual, antiquated zoning bylaws prevail. Rather than get into a negative campaign, I'll defer to the aesthetic nature of this proposal.

The only light at the end of the tunnel, in my opinion, is the prospect of a colonial type structure. If Mr. Bolduc does get his permit, hopefully, he will adhere to a design that will enhance the corner.

I've noted that someone has even offered to buy the shutters to complete the look. Mr. Bolduc???
Marilyn Curry
427 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills

Public Presence Is Needed At Liquor Licensing Meeting

To The Editor: Friends And Neighbors:

Just a reminder. If you live in the Juniper Ridge Shops area of Feeding Hills and are opposed to having a bar in your neighborhood, please attend the 7:00 p.m. meeting on February 13th at the Faolin Peirce Room of the Agawam Police Station. This meeting will be before the Agawam Liquor Licensing Commission.

If you reside in another section of Feeding Hills or Agawam and have family or friends in the Juniper Ridge Shops area, please consider showing your support at this meeting.

To all Agawam/Feeding Hills residents: WE NEED YOUR HELP! Your presence at this meeting will help preserve the fine quality of life we all enjoy in our town.

Thank you all for your support.

Gail and Rick Jagodowski
60 Halladay Dr.
Feeding Hills

Citizens Are Encouraged To Participate In "Speak Time"

To The Editor:

For many years I have operated the camera for the various meetings that are televised through Channel 5. Over the last nine months there has been a small group of people that appear at every meeting.

The group of about six speak during citizen's speak time that is allotted for people to speak about whatever they wish. The charter rules are: the first 45 minutes of the meeting be set aside for speakers. Each speaker is allowed to speak for five minutes.

I would like to encourage the town's people to come speak at citizen's speak time. To speak in a positive tone for the town of Agawam. There are many great happenings in this town for the people to hear about.

In closing, I strongly encourage your positive input at OUR TOWN'S COUNCIL MEETINGS!

Sincerely,
Ray Moreau
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By
COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

Saturday, February 10th
Chicken supper at Valley Comm. Church,
152 South Westfield Street, F.H.
Serving: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Adults, \$6.50; children, \$3.25
Call 786-2445 or 786-2576

Saturday, February 10th
"Dance Party" sponsored by
AHS Ski Team Parents Association
At Polish Club, Feeding Hills
8:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$5 at the door

Monday, February 12th
Catholic Women's Club of Agawam
At St. John's Parish Center,
833 Main St., Agawam
8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 13th
"Open House/Membership Party"
by Agawam Junior Women's Club
At Captain Charles Leonard House
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Call 786-4578 for more information

Thursday, February 22nd
"Women's Self Defense Clinic"
At Fitness First, Feeding Hills
6:15 to 7:30 p.m.
\$3 per person; preregistration
required by calling 786-1460



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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Volunteers Camera Operators Should Be Better Appreciated

To The Editor:

While attending a recent City Council meeting with my husband, who is a volunteer camera operator for the council meetings, Town Councilor Gary Suffriti approached us.

Instead of thanking him for always being willing to help broadcast the meeting along with the other volunteers, he had a rude comment on how "out of focus" the council meetings were being broadcast and what a good job the School Committee volunteers do broadcasting that meeting.

It sounded like Mr. Suffriti doesn't want the meetings to be televised. Do you have something to hide, Mr. Suffriti? We should all be thankful people care enough about this city to take the time so we are able to watch the meetings from our home.

John Balboni does an excellent job coordinating the broadcasting of both the City Council and School Committee meetings. I don't think he does one better than the other.

We should thank the volunteers.

Sincerely,
Marguerite Moreau
Feeding Hills

Concerned Ag. Taxpayers Meet For The Second Time

To The Editor:

On Wednesday, January 31st, the Concerned Agawam Taxpayers met for the second time. There were over 120 people in attendance. The group has grown in one week by more than 25 percent. The meeting was held at The Oaks, 1070 Suffield Street, Agawam.

The group consisted of business owners and residents. We were very pleased with the growth of the group by not only residents but by the business community.

A petition drive is under way, with over 100 people circulating the petition, that reads:

"We, the undersigned residents and business owners in the town of Agawam, hereby urge the members of the Agawam Town Council to do everything in their power to support the Berkshire Power Project."

"We also ask that the Council support the tax agreement proposed by Berkshire Power which will provide \$800,000 in desperately needed revenue per year and \$200,000 per year for a community fund to be used for the betterment of our town."

The above is the wording for the petition.

C.A.T. has begun another large community support activity. They are signing and mailing postcards to elected officials in the town. They plan on having hundreds mailed within two weeks.

The largest commitment was made by the group when they voted to attempt to change the Zoning Board of Appeals to a five-member board. Attorney Robert Danie is chairing this committee. The committee will be looking into the legislature and local ways to change the existing board's number.

There was much discussion about citizens speak time at the council meetings. The group will be setting up a plan to help address ALL businesses' needs through the council forum of citizens speak time.

At the first meeting, many members asked to have Berkshire Power attend the meeting. Kevin O'Reilly and Ken Roberts did attend to answer questions. The questions were a wide range. They ranged from "Where are you currently in the permitting process?" to "What is going on with the nursing home and is NU involved?"

The meeting that was to be over by 9:00 did not end until almost 10:00 because of a high-energy crowd with many GREAT ideas.

C.A.T. will be having guest speakers to attend the next meeting.

Our next meeting will be on February 21, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. The Oaks, located at 1070 Suffield Street, Agawam, will again host the meeting.

Vivian Dziardziel, Spokesperson
Concerned Agawam Taxpayers

More Public Input Is Needed Regarding Power Plant Issue

To The Editor:

My letter is to respond to previous letters from Frank Meagher and Vivian Dziardziel.

Frank stated in his letter that he thinks the power plant is a sensitive issue with the people of Agawam (YOU GOT THAT RIGHT, FRANK) and therefore should be dealt with by scientists and engineers from outside of the local level. I think

that the Agawam voters should have had the ultimate decision on whether to have this power plant in town or not.

The majority should rule. The mayor or the councilors should not have the only voice in this most important matter. We (THE PEOPLE) voted out the casino because we did not want it for a number of reasons, but more important was the people had the ultimate say so.

The mayor and the councilors who denied us that chance last year ended up costing the taxpayers time and money. Fighting among the councilors, special meetings, lawsuits, etc., would never have happened if the question was put to the people (LAST YEAR).

We now have Vivian Dziardziel starting up a new citizens group in order to speak up for the power plant. Just what we need—more baloney, more bickering. What we need is more people writing in to this newspaper and letting the people know whether they are for or against the plant.

I don't want the power plant for health reasons and just because it should not be that close to people. We can get the money from someplace else.

I hope other Agawam readers will respond to this letter and let us know where you stand.

Robert Philip III
Agawam

Agawam Should Be Proud Of Fire And Police Officials

To The Editor:

To The Town Of Agawam:

I want to publicly express my appreciation for the fine professionals you have working on the Fire and Police Departments.

They have always responded promptly and considerably to our calls. I am especially grateful for the care and concern given my husband during his heart attack on January 2nd.

They responded quickly during the snowstorm and were kind, reassuring, and extremely competent.

Our city deserves to be proud of these people and the services they perform.

Sincerely,
Carol Baruffaldi
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

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Wednesday and Thursday Only

Save \$5.00

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This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.

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LETTERS - from Page 5...

"Friends Of The Agawam Senior Ctr." Seeks Sponsors**To The Editor:**

As members of "Friends of the Agawam Senior Center," we are proud of the efforts of "Friends" to benefit Agawam's seniors and the center.

Recent projects have included a new pool table, new Formica tables for the center, and recovering the center's pool tables. Past projects include a larger screen video projector, a new stove and Hobart mixer for the senior center kitchen, a laser printer and an electronic BINGO machine for the center, and a weeping cherry tree for the grounds.

"Friends" is a fundraising, non-profit organization created in 1985 and incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Budget restrictions, which have limited the Council on Aging's services to our seniors, have made the work of "Friends" more important than ever.

We hope you will join with us to help enhance the programs and services provided to Agawam's seniors. Please consider a sponsorship.

Please remit a check along with your name and address to "Friends," Box 238, Agawam, MA 01001.

Thank you for your support of "Friends."

"FRIENDS" OF THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER
Joanne H. Willis, Membership Committee

Jr. Women Thank Merchants For Selling Holiday Ornaments**To The Editor:**

We'd like to take this time to offer a special thank you to four businesses in town who helped make the Agawam Junior Women's Club Holiday Ornament Program a success again this year.

Surprise! Hallmark Card & Gift Shop, Feeding Hill Public Market, Corner Deli, and Agawam Public Market sold our ornaments in their stores again this year. Without their help, the program would not have been as successful. We truly appreciate your help and support.

Thank you, as well, to all the townspeople who purchased the ornaments. We like to think we helped to start a tradition not only in this great town of ours, but in many families as well. Many people purchase these for gifts for their parents, children, neighbors, and friends year after year.

Many people have offered comments and suggestions on the design of the ornament and on other historical landmarks they'd like to see featured. We appreciate these comments and take them into consideration.

Thank you again to the owners and employees of the stores mentioned above and to the townspeople who support our Holiday Ornament Program. We appreciate the support.

Betty Vershon and Pam Quirk
Holiday Ornament Chairpersons

Residents Express Thanks For "Clear" Fire Hydrants**To The Editor:**

Many thanks to our neighbor of 22 River Street for clearing the fire hydrant during the snowstorms.

Yours truly,
F.J. Otto & Rose Bertoldi
Agawam



SENATOR LINDA J. MELCONIAN (left) hands over a check for \$30,000 from the third annual Linda J. Melconian Charity Golf Open to Mary Reardon Johnson (center), executive director of the YWCA of Western Massachusetts, and Kathleen Dowd (right), fund developer for Womanshelter/Companeras. The Golf Open raised \$27,000 for Hampden County battered women's shelters.

Senator Linda Melconian Raises \$30,000 For Women's Shelters In Hampden County

Senator Linda J. Melconian has raised \$30,000 for the battered women's shelters serving Hampden County: Womanshelter/Companeras in Holyoke, and the programs of the YWCA of Western Massachusetts including the Abuse and Rape Crisis Hotline (ARCH) in Springfield and New Beginnings in Westfield. Melconian recently presented the checks to the shelters.

The money was raised through the Third Annual Linda J. Melconian Charity Golf Open held August 28, 1995, at The Orchards in South Hadley. The support of sponsors, golfers, and volunteers once again contributed to the success of this annual event. Since 1993, the Golf Open has raised \$87,000. The fourth annual Linda J. Melconian Charity Golf Open is scheduled to take place at The Orchards on Monday, August 26th.

"Thirty-two women, six men, and three children lost their lives due to domestic violence in 1995—a 32 percent increase over the previous year. We need to collectively work together to end the insidious cycle of violence that has permeated our homes, schools, businesses, and streets. Educating our children and addressing the impact on the children who witness domestic violence or are abused themselves need to be our priorities, because it does take a village to raise a child," said Senator Linda J. Melconian.

This year, Womanshelter/Companeras, ARCH and New Beginnings received \$10,000 each from the Golf Open. The shelters provide emergency shelter, 24-hour telephone hotlines, counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, information, and referrals. All services for battered women and their children are free and confidential.

"Once again, the Senator, her staff, and volunteers put together another fabulous tourna-

ment. The money we receive is used for prevention programs and direct services. One of our most successful prevention programs is our Teen Dating Violence Awareness program which reached over 3,500 teens in our communities this year. We look forward to increasing that number in 1996," said Kathleen M. Dowd, development coordinator for Womanshelter/Companeras. Last year, Womanshelter/Companeras provided services to over 900 women and children and received over 1,800 hotline calls.

"Over 1,300 hours of direct services for battered women and their children would be lost if not for the tremendous efforts of Senator Melconian. The success of this tournament not only directly impacts the ability of our shelters to provide education and outreach to the community and comprehensive services to battered women, but also to help children in shelter deal with the devastating effects of living with violence," said Mary Reardon Johnson, executive director of the YWCA of Western Massachusetts.

In 1995, ARCH responded to 4,681 hotline calls and provided direct services to 259 women and children. New Beginnings responded to 2,513 hotline calls and provided direct services to 92 women and children.

Anyone needing to access the services of the Hampden County battered women's shelters should call the following 24-hour hotline numbers: Womanshelter/Companeras, (413) 535-1628; ARCH, (413) 733-7100 (TTY)/1-800-796-8711 (TTY); and New Beginnings, (413) 562-1920 (TTY)/1-800-479-6245 (TTY).

For more information on becoming a sponsor or participating in the Golf Open, call 786-6033.

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Eight Councilors Vote In Favor...

Tree Belt Ordinance Passes 1st Hurdle

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

An ordinance aimed at sprucing up the town's tree belts cleared its first hurdle at the Town Council meeting Monday, February 5th.

If approved, property owners will face fines of up to \$100 if the treebelts adjacent to their properties are not mowed and kept free of litter and debris.

Enforcement will be the responsibility of the building inspector and the health inspector (should unsanitary conditions exist).

Councilors approved the first reading of the zoning change sponsored by Councilor George Bitzas and the Agawam Beautification Committee with a vote of 8-2 and one absent. The measure will face two more readings before it can become law.

In favor were Council President Nancy Thompson, Councilors David Skolnick, Gary Suffriti, Kent Servis, Christian Quatrone, Joseph Langone, Dennis Perry, and Bitzas. Voting against were Councilors Thomas Ennis and Edward Caba.

Before the vote was taken, Council Vice-President Jill Simpson excused herself from the meeting after Caba and Ennis questioned the validity of the town solicitor's signature approving the ordinance as to form and legality.

After a heated exchange, Mrs. Simpson stated, "I am excusing myself from the meeting, I will not be a party to this."

Comparing Locke's signature on other council papers, Ennis said, "I know he didn't sign this document."

Accepted Business Behavior

Ms. Thompson pointed out that Locke's name had been written in and initialed by an office worker. Ms. Thompson said, "It's a matter of accepted business behavior for a signature to be signed by someone in the office and initialed."

Ms. Thompson said it was not unusual for her name to be signed by the council clerk and initialed if she cannot get into the office.

Quatrone later said he was embarrassed at what had taken place and apologized to the voters, Town Solicitor Thomas Locke, and Mrs. Simpson.

"We're up here to legislate," Quatrone said. "We're not up here to call each other names and embarrass ourselves."

Bitzas said the proposed ordinance grew out of complaints concerning properties where overgrown grass has grown to be four to five feet tall that causes a hazard to motorists and bicyclists, as well as becoming an invitation for the dumping of trash and debris.

For the most part, the trouble spots occur on parcels that are vacant or rental properties where both tenants and landlords say they are not responsible for maintaining the tree belt.

Bitzas said there are few problems with homeowners and businesses (as most people naturally maintain the tree belts as extensions of their own properties).

Ennis said the town owns the tree belts and should be responsible for maintaining them.

Ennis said the DPW should be maintaining the tree belts instead of "manicuring the golf course for the Mayor and his cronies to play golf."

Ennis suggested the town work with Hampden County Sheriff Michael Ashe to use inmates from the Ludlow jail to maintain the tree belts. Also, a community service project could be developed for disruptive students to work on cleaning up the tree belts, Ennis said.

"That's how you could take care of the problem," Ennis said, "not by asking people who pay their taxes to maintain the town-owned tree belt."

Feeding Hills farm owner Mary Ann Czerpak said Massachusetts General Laws require an agricultural impact statement be prepared before any laws affecting agriculture can be passed. Mrs. Czerpak said some Feeding Hills farmers

have property with more than a mile of tree belts. Caba said he had received 20 to 30 phone calls from elderly people "rightfully concerned" that they will be responsible for trash discarded by others and blown onto their properties.

"If you take a ride down Walnut Street today, from 196 to 210, I'll bet you could get two 30-gallon cans of debris which would fall on the responsibility of the homeowners," Caba said.

Common Sense Would Prevail

Bitzas said common sense would prevail in the enforcement of the ordinance. He said it wouldn't be necessary to add language that would exclude the occasional trash that might blow onto someone's property, or the trash that might occasionally be spilled when trash cans are set out for collection.

"This will be no burden at all for elderly people," Bitzas said. "Elderly people have pride in how their property looks and they keep their yards cleaner than many younger people. We have had no complaints about elderly people."

After consulting with the building inspector, Suffriti suggested amending the ordinance to require "uninterrupted, clear vision at all intersections."

Ennis cast the sole dissenting vote on the amendment.

"Somebody should get after the town for the way they plow the streets," Caba said. "Every intersection has an impediment."

The Beautification Committee sent a letter to the Ordinance Committee stating that the proposed ordinance is modeled on those found successful in surrounding communities and is not intended to infringe on the good practices of the majority of Agawam's citizens.

The ordinance had the unanimous support of the Ordinance Committee (Quatrone, Bitzas, and Mrs. Simpson).

Toxic Use Reduction
Can Be Recognized
By State Says Keenan

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has announced that entry forms are now available for the 1996 Governor's Award for Toxics Use Reduction. This is the third year for the award which recognizes achievement in toxics use reduction.

The Governor's Awards Program provides an opportunity for Massachusetts to recognize toxics users who have implemented highly beneficial, innovative, or broadly applicable toxics use reduction strategies in Massachusetts. Their efforts have resulted in substantial benefits to industry by reducing the cost of toxics use and waste disposal; to government by reducing the need for compliance and enforcement; and to the public by reducing the hazards to health, safety, and the environment posed by the use of toxic and hazardous substances.

Any Massachusetts firm, hospital, laboratory, school, or academic institution, municipal or state agency, or individual may apply for a governor's award.

All entries must be postmarked by March 1, 1996, and the application review process will culminate in an awards ceremony to be held at the Omni Parker House in Boston on May 15th.

Entry forms are available at Rep. Keenan's district office, 549 Springfield Street, Agawam, or by calling the office at (413) 786-4545.

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Town Democrats To Hold Special Caucus
On March 5th To Select State Delegates

The Agawam Democratic Committee will hold a caucus on Saturday, March 2, 1996 at 2:00 p.m. in the community room at the Police Station on Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Delegates will be elected to attend the

Massachusetts Democratic Convention at Worcester on June 1, 1996.

You must be a registered Democrat as of February 14, 1996 to run. Democrats that wish to run must be in attendance promptly at 2:00 p.m.

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Zoning Board To Rule On Pride Station Request

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

With controversy still swirling around its decision to write a majority and minority opinion in the appeal of Berkshire Power and the subsequent decision to use the town's attorneys to defend the case in court, the Zoning Board of Appeals will soon be the center of attention in another developer's plan to expand his business.

Robert Bolduc said he will ask the ZBA to rule on whether or not the Pride Gas Station and Convenience Store at Feeding Hills Center should be considered a restaurant.

The store has a deli and sells hot dogs as well as coffee and donuts.

Last year, the town changed the zoning code to require drive-through restaurants to obtain a special permit from the ZBA and provide 50 parking spaces (after McDonald's proposed building a restaurant with a drive-through window on the site next to the Pride Station). That site is also owned by Bolduc.

Bolduc said he expected McDonald's would be returning with a proposal for the site. Bold said he has no intention of ever selling hamburgers at his store. Furthermore, Bolduc said if a McDonald's is built next door, he would never be able to sell hamburgers.

At the Thursday, February 1st Planning Board meeting, Bolduc said he will challenge the decision of Building Inspector Dominic Urbinati that requires a special permit for the drive-up window being proposed as part of a \$500,000 expansion of the convenience store/gas station.

According to the site plan submitted to the town's Office of Planning and Development, Bolduc is proposing to raze the existing gas station/convenience store and replace it with a 2,400 square foot convenience store, a drive-up window, and a new gas pump island with a canopy of 46x48 feet.

The new building will look similar to the current building, but it will be three times larger.

Plans call for a flat-roofed, white stonepaneled

building with the familiar blue and green Pride logo and striping on the building.

Request For A More "Colonial" Design...

Planning Board members, along with Town Councilors Jill Simpson and Kent Servis, and Feeding Hills residents Richard and Ann Bellico, asked Bolduc to consider a more colonial looking design (to better fit in with the historic buildings and colonial-style churches at the center).

Bolduc said he would be willing to cooperate with the town's wishes in the design of the building in return for cooperation from the town.

"We're very bothered by the fact that we've been told the drive-up window has to go to the Zoning Board of Appeals," Bolduc said.

Bolduc said his proposal will result in improved traffic flow and safety.

The new facility will meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act for handicap accessibility and will incorporate the latest technology in the gas and diesel storage tanks.

In response to concerns raised by Councilor Simpson, Bolduc said he did not expect a problem with cars stacking up at the drive-through window and backing up onto Springfield Street.

Bolduc said he would take steps, like limiting the number of items purchased at the window, if the operation was not moving quickly enough.

"We're on the same wavelength," Bolduc said. "We want them in and out as fast as possible."

Bellico, a member of the Historical Commission, urged Bolduc to consider the town residents who will be looking at the building for a long time.

"If you build colonial, I'll buy the shutters," Bellico pledged. "That's how important this is to us. We're trying to make it more of a village center."

Asked by Planning Board member Dennis Hopkins where the board could view a convenience store drive-up window in operation, Bolduc said he did not know of any outside California.

"This is a totally new concept and I'm ahead of the pack," Bolduc said.

Reduced Tuition May Be Obtained: Keenan

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has announced that Massachusetts residents may pay reduced tuition at New England public colleges through the Regional Student Program.

The RSP, which is offered through the New England Board of Higher Education, allows Massachusetts residents to pay reduced out-of-state tuition at public colleges and universities in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont when they enroll in certain degree programs not offered by Massachusetts' public institutions.

Health management and policy, meteorology, and acting are just a few of the degree programs available at reduced out-of-state tuition to Massachusetts residents through RSP, which saves participating students thousands of dollars each on their annual college tuition bills.

In academic year 1994-1995, over 2,000 Massachusetts residents enrolled at out-of-state colleges through RSP and each saved an average of \$3,854 on their tuition bills. Total tuition savings for Massachusetts residents was almost \$7.8 million last year.

The RSP, now in its 39th year, not only saves students and their families thousands of dollars in tuition, but also saves taxpayers millions of dollars by enabling New England state higher education systems to share resources and avoid duplicating costly academic programs. Reduced-tuition programs are listed in the APPLE BOOK (the annual RSP catalog), released by the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE).

For information on specific degree programs available, high school students are encouraged to check with their guidance counselors. The APPLE BOOK is also available at public libraries throughout New England and at the admissions offices and career planning centers of New England's public colleges and universities.

For more information, contact the Office of the Regional Student Program, New England Board of Higher Education, 45 Temple Place, Boston, MA 02111; (617) 357-9620.

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Committee Is Under Way To Simplify the Process Of Obtaining Necessary Business Permits

A committee consisting of members of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce and town officials, including Mayor Christopher Johnson, are working on a plan to make the process of obtaining necessary business permits clearer and easier.

The committee has been meeting since last fall, as a follow-up to the Chamber's call for the town to facilitate the permitting process for those companies who demonstrate good corporate citizenship.

The committee members from the Chamber are Michael Fiorini of Environmental Compliance Services, Mark Haymes of Standard Uniform Services, and Donald Anderson of Baybank. Mayor Johnson and Planning and Community Development Director Deborah Dachos represent the town. They are currently researching the types of permits needed for various kinds of businesses, and looking into the feasibility of compiling a per-

mit list that could be used by all local companies. The group is also considering putting together a list of town resources available to assist Agawam businesses.

The work by the committee is just the latest chapter in the Agawam Chamber's ongoing commitment to economic development. Last November, the Chamber published a new brochure which promotes Agawam as a site to locate a company or expand a business already in town. The brochure, which was distributed to the more than 200-member businesses of the Agawam Chamber, is available at the Town Hall, the Chamber office, and through the Economic Development Partners (EDP).

The Agawam Chamber also co-sponsors the town's membership in EDP, a regional organization which works to attract new companies to the area, and to retain existing businesses. In the last year, EDP has been instrumental in bringing four

new firms to Agawam, and in keeping one company in town. Its efforts have resulted in the creation or retention of at least 280 jobs.

The Chamber also established a successful and extensive partnership with the Agawam Public Schools, helping to ensure that Agawam remains an attractive location for businesses and residents, and laying the groundwork for a skilled and competitive workforce in future years. The Chamber was recently recognized for its work in the schools by the Agawam Partners in Education, who named the Chamber as "Partner of the Year," and by the Agawam Education Association, who gave the Chamber its "Friend of Education" award.

If you are interested in working with the Agawam Chamber of Commerce for a stronger local economy, please call Kevin McElhinney or Jean Falk at the Chamber office at 787-1555.

Senator Melconian Secures Park, Environmental Funds

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced the passage of a \$399 million Open Space Capital Outlay Bill, which will provide valuable recreational and environmental enhancement funds to the Hampden District.

"I am delighted to have passed such worthwhile legislation that will provide needed aesthetic improvement to our communities," Melconian said.

Agawam will benefit from the legislation. A portion of the \$25 million authorized for the acquisition of property will assist the town in purchasing and developing property currently owned by Robert and Ann Hall.

Since the land abuts Perry Lane, the town, through the acquisition of the Hall property, will be protecting a wetland area located on the property and Perry Lane Park from future development. The city plans to create nature education trails throughout the piece of land.

Melconian was instrumental in securing \$5 million for the Forest Park restoration projects from the Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program. Located in Springfield, the park is an area that is enjoyed by all communities in the Hampden District.

"Forest Park is a wonderful area for families and individuals to relax and enjoy a stress-free environment. These restoration projects will continue ongoing efforts to improve our park," Melconian said.

SEE MELCONIAN - Page 10...

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Westbank Corporation Announces Record Earnings For 1995

Westbank Corporation posted record earnings for 1995 with a net income of \$2,353,000 or \$.72 per share, an 8 percent increase over the previous year, according to Donald R. Chase, President and Chief Executive Officer. Net income for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 1995 totaled \$616,000 or \$.19 per share versus \$64,000 or \$.02 per share for the same period in 1994.

"We continued on course to build long-term value for our shareholders, providing solid earnings and stable growth while maintaining excellent asset quality," Chase said.

Excellent benchmark ratios such as .93 percent return on assets and a 14.04 percent return on average shareholders' equity were also achieved. The Corporation's book value increased to \$5.41 as compared to \$4.79 per share in 1994.

As a result of this strong performance by Westbank, the Board of Directors raised the quarterly cash dividend to \$.06 per share, an increase of 20 percent compared to the previous quarter.

An improving economy fueled loan growth in 1995, with total loans at year end of \$197.3 million, an increase of more than \$4.5 million over 1994.

The Corporation's investment portfolio totaled \$35.1 million at year end compared to \$29.5 million at the end of 1994, an increase of 18 percent and includes the origination and creation of \$8.9 million of mortgage-backed securities.

Total deposits of \$228 million includes an increase of more than \$3.6 million or 9 percent in new demand deposit accounts as compared to December 31, 1994.

Growth in loans, investments, and demand deposits enabled the Corporation to maintain a net interest margin of 4.94 percent for the year ended December 31, 1995, with net interest income increasing by \$874,000 or 8 percent compared to 1994.

During 1995, Westbank successfully continued its quest to reduce its level of operating expenses, with the Corporation's capital totaled \$17.7 million, an increase of more than \$2 million or 15.6 percent compared to year end 1994. The Corporation's capital ratio totaled 6.98 percent at year end 1995.

Westbank attained several milestones in 1995 in their drive to strengthen both their personal banking franchise and shareholder value. First of all, Westbank Corporation received a regulatory rating of "outstanding" from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation after its recent community reinvestment examination of the Bank.

Secondly, they opened their first supermarket branch in the Edwards Super Food Store in Westfield, so that the hundreds of new customers using this facility have the convenience of shopping and banking all under one roof.

Finally, they have received regulatory approval to open an additional supermarket branch in the Edwards Super Food Store on Memorial Drive in Chicopee, the grand opening is scheduled for February.

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THE RIVER ROAD SECTION OF AGAWAM may have looked like a winter wonderland following last Friday night's snowfall, but sometime in the future the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway project may become a reality when the state comes through with project funding, according to State Senator Linda J. Melconian. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

MELCONIAN - from Page 9...

Funding for construction and development of the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway project is included in the bond bill. This riverside project will run alongside the Connecticut River through Agawam, Chicopee, Longmeadow, Springfield, and West Springfield.

"I am very excited about the river project, because it will provide beautiful recreational options and will be a source of pride for the entire region," Melconian said.

The Open Space bill will appropriate \$50 million in funds for self-help programs and urban self-help programs. Melconian fought hard to maintain the programs as competitive grants which will assist towns who have developed a plan to convert an enhance unused or abandoned properties.

An additional \$2 million has been set aside for the demolition of abandoned buildings in order to secure open space opportunities such as parks, conservation, or recreational areas. Communities

like Agawam can benefit substantially from these set-asides.

"This money will allow Agawam and the surrounding communities to develop recreational and park areas for our citizens, and at the same time, make our cities more attractive," Melconian stated.

Melconian succeeded in expanding the Environmental Trust Fund to include monies to protect the Chicopee and Connecticut Rivers and waterways. A portion of the Environmental license plate fees fund this trust. Additionally, for the first time, two people from Western Massachusetts will now sit on the Environmental Trust Board.

Also included in the legislation is \$30 million to fund a loan program assisting homeowners in complying with the revised state environmental code for subsurface disposal of waste, otherwise known as Title V. The loans are for the betterment of septic systems and for connecting homeowners who currently are on septic systems to available municipal sewer systems.

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Agawam Obituaries

Robert M. Morrissey

Robert M. "Chief" Morrissey, 47, of 24 William St., West Springfield, formerly of Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center. Born in Springfield, he was a longtime resident of West Springfield.

He was a 1967 graduate of West Springfield High School. He was a U.S. Army Veteran of Vietnam, where he received the National Defense Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He was a communicant of St. Thomas the Apostle Church. He leaves his wife, the former Karen (Fitzgerald) Morrissey; a stepson, Jeremy R. Gentile of Salem; three sisters, Marion Richards of Sommers, Anne Cloutier of Westhampton and Kathleen Walsh of Largo, Florida.

The funeral was at Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Richard R. Foley

Richard R. Foley, 50, of 89 Autumn St., Agawam, a 17-year propane supervisor at Baystate Gas Co., died at home.

Born in Springfield, he lived in West Springfield for many years before moving here 33 years ago. He was a 1963 graduate of Agawam High School, and a communicant and chorister at St. David's Episcopal Church.

He served in the 104th Infantry Regiment of the state National Guard, and sang with the Springfield Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus.

He leaves his wife, the former Janet Brunetti; a son, Michael of East Longmeadow; a daughter, Christine Burnett of East Longmeadow; a stepdaughter, Lisa A. Booth of West Springfield; his mother, Alberta (Wheeler) Foley of Agawam; two brothers, Thomas of East Otis and Russell of West Springfield, and a granddaughter.

The funeral was at the church, with burial at the convenience of the family. Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in charge.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 1583 Memorial Drive, Chicopee, 01020.

Helen Volikas

Helen (Zades) Volikas, 86, formerly of 39 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, died in a Westmoreland, New Hampshire nursing home.

She was a sales clerk at the former Albert Steiger Co. for many years. Born in Smyrna, Turkey, she lived most of her life in Springfield and here. She attended Springfield schools, and worshipped at St. George's Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Springfield.

Her husband, Marcus G. Volikas, died in 1952. She leaves a son, George M. of New Hampshire; two daughters, Maria Kallipolites of West Yarmouth and Daphne Calkins of Holyoke; two brothers, Nicholas of Springfield and George of Chicopee; 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was at James P. Hobert & Sons Funeral Home of Holyoke, with burial at Oak Grove Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be used to the Maplewood Nursing Home, Westmoreland, New Hampshire 03467.

Margaret M. Lyon

Margaret M. (Armstrong) Lyon, 81, of Springfield, a retired 16-year senior cook at the former Classical High School, died in an Agawam nursing home.

A lifelong resident of the city, she graduated from Cathedral High School in 1930. She was a communicant of Our Lady of Hope Church and taught confraternity there.

She was a member of the Hope Center Seniors Group. She leaves her husband of 52 years, Julian J. Lyon; two sons, Robert E. and Ernest J.; and two sisters, Irene Levesque and Mary O'Connor, all of Springfield.

The funeral was at Sampson's Liberty Street Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Disease, in care of the VNA of Pioneer Valley, Box 51948, Springfield, 01151-0516.

James N. Quinn

James N. Quinn, 51, of Agawam, an area social work director, died at home after a brief illness. He was a certified social worker with the state Department of Public Welfare in Springfield from 1966-1970, and was its social work supervisor from 1970-1983. He was the area director for the Department of Social Services in Holyoke from 1983-89. He was a court investigator for Holyoke District Court and the Worcester Juvenile Court in from 1989-90.

He then became regional administrator for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Holyoke.

He was an adjunct lecturer at Western New England College in Springfield, and a part-time interventions program coordinator in Easthampton.

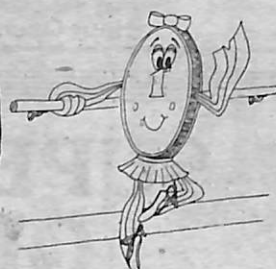
He served on WNEC's Social Work Advisory Council, and was a director of the Holyoke High School Teen Clinic and the Holyoke-Chicopee Head Start Program.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 12...

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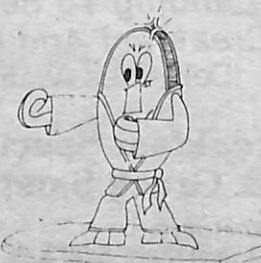


Cheerleading

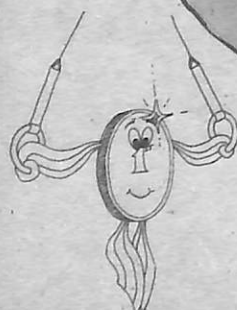
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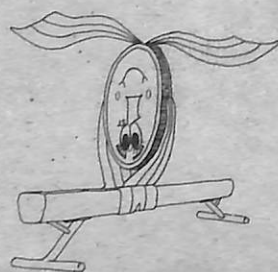
Our Strength Is How We Prepare Our Youth ...
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Gold Medal Self-Defense



Men's Gymnastics



Women's Gymnastics



PHYLLIS CASEY

Phyllis Casey To Run For Republican State Committeewoman Post

Phyllis J. Casey of 155 Chestnut Street, West Springfield, has announced her candidacy for the post of Republican State Committeewoman for the Hampden District, which is composed of the towns of Agawam and West Springfield, and parts of the cities of Springfield and Chicopee.

Mrs. Casey is a 26-year resident of the district and has been active in Republican politics in West Springfield for many years, having served on the Library Committee, as a Town Meeting Member, and as a candidate for Selectman.

"I feel that as a resident of this district for many years, who raised a family here, sent my children through the local schools here, and who has been active in the community here for many years, I understand the concerns that people here have about government, and feel that I can best serve the district in the post of State Committeewoman," Mrs. Casey said.

Mrs. Casey is currently employed by Baystate Medical Center as a Licensed Practical Nurse in the endoscopy unit. She has worked at Baystate Medical Center for 21 years.

The election for the post will be held on March 5, 1996, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Republican Presidential Primary.

"I encourage all Republican and Independent voters to vote in the primary on March 5th, and ask for your support," said Mrs. Casey.

OBITUARIES - from Page 11...

Born in Springfield, he lived in the city most of his life. He was a graduate of the former Classical High School.

He received a bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1966, and a master's of education in guidance and psychological services from Springfield College in 1981.

He moved here five years ago.

He leaves two sons, Jeffrey N. of Brighton, and Brendan of East Longmeadow; a daughter, Jennifer M. Quinn of Brighton; his parents, Norris J. and Helen J. Quinn of Chicopee; a brother, William of Orlando, Florida; three sisters, Karol Thomas and Nora Miller of Chicopee, and Mary Quinn of Holyoke, and his former wife, Sandra Quinn of East Longmeadow.

The funeral will be Friday morning at Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home of East Longmeadow, with burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Springfield.

Calling hours are Thursday afternoon and evening, and memorial contributions may be made to the MSPCC, 117 Hampden St., Holyoke, 01040, or the Hampshire County Hospice, P.O. Box 1087, Northampton, 01061.

Agawam Counseling Ctr. Offers Classes For GED Testing

Wish you hadn't dropped out of school? Are you kicking yourself for not finishing high school? You could do it NOW! Make 1996 *your* year of opportunities.

If you are searching for a new job, hoping for a job change, or perhaps want to go on to some type of higher education, a GED can help. Most employers treat high school graduates and those with a GED (General Equivalency Diploma) the same. A GED can be your ticket to a higher education degree, a better job, and an increased sense of self-worth.

The Agawam Counseling Center offers classes for GED test preparation and pre-testing for the GED in a safe, confidential, stress-free environment. Classes begin every Tuesday.

Call the Center now and ask to speak with our GED coordinator, Ruth Roberts, at 786-6410.

For copies of his photos in this edition, call AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Jack has all the negatives and will be glad to help you. Thank you!

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Sale Price \$2,468 ⁴⁰	\$2,567 ¹⁴	\$2,691 ¹⁰

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351 Main St., Agawam

Expanding To Serve Full Breakfast And Lunch (Deliveries Available)

Breakfast Specials, Deli & Greek Sandwiches

New Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 5:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
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Office of the Mayor
Town of Agawam
36 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001

Deadline for Applications is April 12, 1996



Families

Town's AARP Holds Annual Banquet



THE AGAWAM-FEEDING HILLS AARP held its annual banquet on January 22nd at Storowton Tavern in West Springfield. IN PHOTO LEFT are members of the banquet committee - Rose Paro, Ruth Pieper, and Louise Mattoon; IN PHOTO RIGHT pictured are the group's officers - Paulene Paquette, vice-president; Jessie D. Fuller, president; Patricia Matte, secretary; and Oliver Muldrew, treasurer. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Italian Women's Club Plans Dinner/Dance For All Valentines

The Italian Women's Club is sponsoring a Valentine's Dinner/Dance entitled LA FIESTA di SAN VALENTINO to be held on Saturday, February 17th at 7:00 p.m. at Ferruccio's in Agawam.

Cost is \$14 for adults; \$8 for children.
A GOOD FAMILY TIME TO BE HAD BY ALL!!

Best local news...

Agawam Junior Women's Club Planning Country Western Night On Feb. 24th

Time to kick up your heels and join the Agawam Junior Women's Club in an evening of Country Western dancing featuring the "Broken Spoke" band. The event takes place on February 24th at the Springfield Turnverein from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.

The Turnverein is located at 176 Garden St. in Agawam.

Don't know how to dance? No problem. Your ticket entitles you to free instruction from 8:00 to

9:00 p.m. Instruction will be provided by Tim Welesky. So join us and let the fun begin!

There will be plenty of refreshments. Chile, Nachos, and drinks will be on sale. This is one event you don't want to miss! Tickets are obtainable through Donna Shibley. Call 786-3888.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

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Sunday (Breakfast Only), 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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Heart Shaped
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Now Serving: Hot Soup & Bagels * Gourmet Flavored Hot Chocolate * Personal Pan Pizzas

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Free Ice Cream Scratch Ticket with every order!

Birthday Cakes • Ice Cream Pies • Half Gallons
Hot Fudge Sundaes - Topping Bar - Milk Shakes - Banana Splits

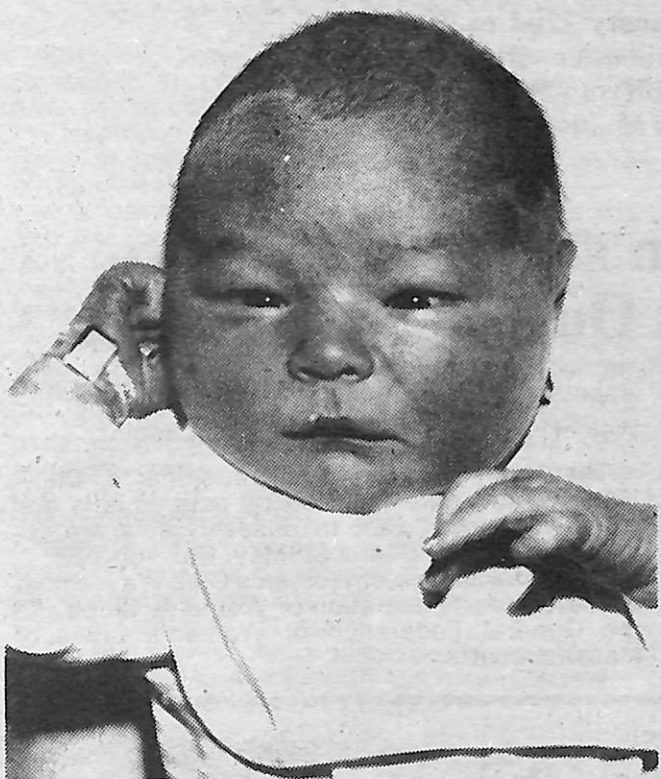
All ice cream made on premises — always fresh & creamy!

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Hours: Mon.-Fri., 12-8 PM; Saturday, 11-9 PM; Sunday, 12-8 PM



MEMBERS OF THE FRENCH WOMEN'S CLUB, Le Cercle des Dames Francaise, recently held their luncheon and fashion show. From left - Marialyse Rivers, president; Jennifer Roberts, scholarship recipient; Jeannette Boucher, member and grandmother of Jennifer Roberts; and Suzanne Willett, fashion show chairwoman. **MIDDLE PHOTO** - serving as ushers were several of the members' husbands - Gerard Cantin, Willard Rivers, and Joseph Banas. **PHOTO RIGHT** - Jeannette Rivet, treasurer; Fernande Berube, Nomination Committee; and Suzanne Daigle, new member. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



BABY CONNOR P. SHEEHAN

Sheehans Announce Birth Of Son, Connor

Richard and Michelle (Amirault) Sheehan of Westfield are proud to announce the birth of their son, Connor Patrick Sheehan. He was born January 6, 1996 at 12:56 p.m., weighing nine pounds, four ounces, and measuring 22 inches.

Connor's grandparents are Thomas and Linda Sheehan of Feeding Hills, and Al and Imogene Amirault of Rocky Hill, Connecticut, and Ellen Amirault of Port Orange, Florida.

Connor's great-grandmothers are Barbara Torriello of Feeding Hills, Grace Sheehan of Springfield, and Helen Marston of Revere, Massachusetts. His great-grandfather is Al Amirault, Sr., of Lynn, Massachusetts.

French Women's Club Holds Luncheon And Fashion Show

Le Cercle des Dames Francaise recently held a luncheon and fashion show at the Colosseum in West Springfield. The proceeds of the fashion show went to the scholarship fund of the "Cercle."

Jennifer Roberts, granddaughter of club member Jeannette Boucher (a resident of Agawam), was this year's recipient of the scholarship. Mrs. Suzanne Willett of Chicopee was chairman of the event, and Mrs. Willard Rivers, Jr., President, is a resident of Springfield.

The membership of the "Cercle" encompasses the Greater Springfield area and works to promote the French language and maintain the heritage.

Fashions were from "Garnets" in Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Best local news...

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BARRY BOCCASILE

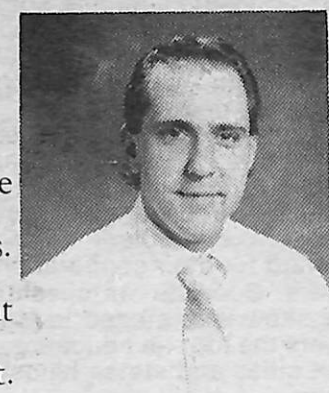


JOAN LUCHINI

IF YOU'RE SELLING A HOUSE, WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE NIBBLES OR BITES?



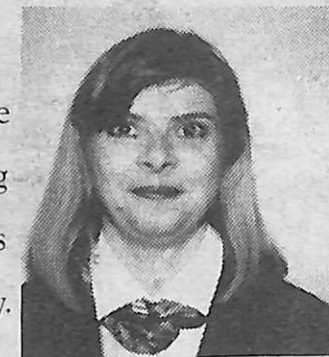
PAT DORAN



DAVE MODZELESKI



KATHY BOCCASILE



DIANE CLEARWATER



KATHY ROSE



GEORGE DAWSON

Few things feel worse than placing your house on the market and watching as the weeks turn into months.

That's why in today's market you need a different approach to selling than you did in years past.

That's also why, if you want to sell successfully, you need to count on the support only one company offers.

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If your property is currently listed with a real estate broker, please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers. We are happy to work with them and cooperate fully. ©1994 Coldwell Banker Corporation. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Some Offices Independently Owned and Operated. In Canada, Each Office is an Independently Owned and Operated Member Broker of Coldwell Banker Affiliates of Canada.



LINDSY CANUEL of Suffield Street (left) poses with her friend, Christine Bogan, who plays the role of "Annie."

LINDSY - from Page 1...

Travel is by tour buses. The stage crew goes ahead of the cast. The bus becomes a traveling home and the Canuels consider it comfortable. School work is not neglected as a tutor is hired to work with the six children of the cast while they are on the road. And Mrs. Canuel oversees Lindsay's works.

Beverly Goodwin, a second grade teacher at James Clark School, prepares assignments for Lindsay to do on the road. Her mother said her marks have been good, and she praised Mrs. Goodwin and Clark School Principal Sandra Howard for their cooperation.

Mrs. Goodwin watched Lindsay perform when the show was staged in New London. Gail considers the tour an educational experience as they visit cities and states Lindsay is learning about in class.

The cast children become friends and Lindsay feels close to Christine Bogan of Pennsylvania, who plays "Annie" in their show.

Daniel Canuel, supervisor of food services at Baystate Medical, is Lindsay's dad. At home with him is Lindsay's sister, Bree, an Agawam High School student who is also active in high school dramatics and the Hilltop Players of Feeding Hills.

The tour company was in Rockford, Illinois on February 1st and then went on to Wabash, Indiana. They often perform in several cities in the same state, Mrs. Canuel said. The average theater they visit holds 1,500-1,600 people, she explained, although the Civic Center in Lima, Ohio holds 2,500. One of their performances will be at University of Akron, Ohio.

National Touring Musicals has two tours underway for the show "Annie." The second cast stars 11 year-old Farra Unger of Longmeadow in the part of "Annie." They are touring 33 Southern and Western U.S. cities. Both groups will be on the road another six weeks.

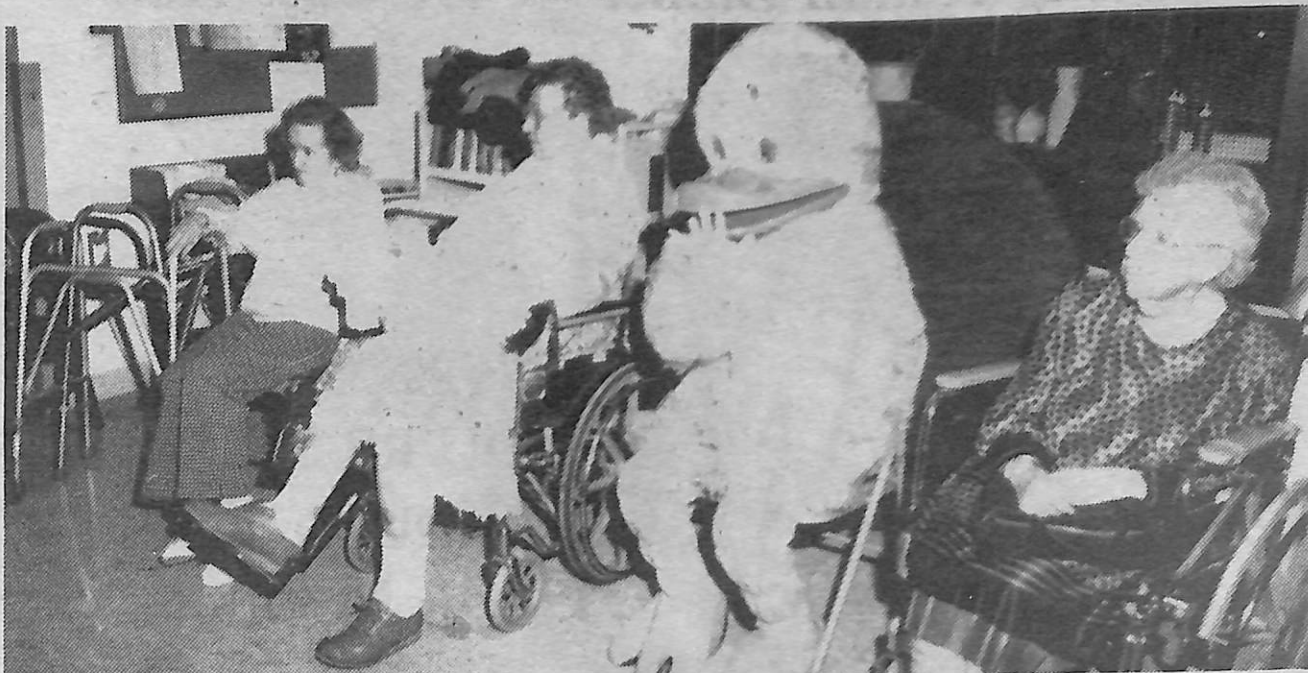
Just as active when she is home or at James Clark School, Lindsay enjoys playing with classmates and friends, riding her bike, taking photos with her own camera, and playing with her Parmaranean dog, Sable.

A Promising Future

With a promising future ahead, Lindsay plans to perform in community theater and to try out for the part of Baby June in the show "Gypsy," scheduled for May in Connecticut. She will also try out for a part in the Broadway show "Les Miserables" and other Broadway parts (maybe even "Annie").

"Musicals are what I like to do best," Lindsay said. As far as she can envision, she wants to sing on Broadway. "And I expect it to happen," Mrs. Canuel said. "Look how much she has done already."

Collaborative Students Visit Heritage Hall



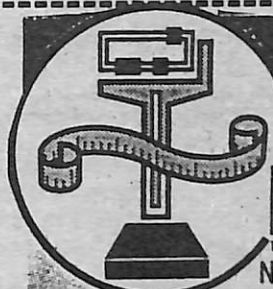
STUDENTS FROM THE LOWER PIONEER VALLEY COLLABORATIVE'S "Twain Program" in West Springfield visited and entertained residents at Heritage Hall Nursing Home (West Building). IN TOP PHOTO are residents Frances Semprebom, Amelia Bednarz, and Eleanor Ransom. PHOTO BELOW - Catherine Kelly and Josephine Witkiewicz. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.



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Making Italian Dinner At Heritage Hall



PREPARING AN ITALIAN DINNER recently at Heritage Hall Nursing Home (South Building) are residents, from left - Pauline Bekes, Catherine Govoni, and Adeline Dilullo. The women are making pasta. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ENJOYING THE NEW POOL table at the Agawam Senior Center are, from left - John Balas, Lillian Doyle (president of "Friends" group), Norm Rinquette, and Bill Case. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

New Pool Table Donated To Sr. Center By "Friends" Group

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center recently donated a new pool table to the Agawam Senior Center to replace one of the older tables which was no longer repairable. Lillian Doyle, President of Friends, was on hand with Senior Center Director Richard Mundo as the new table was installed for use by the seniors.

Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, a fundraising, non-profit organization, was created in 1985 and incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Budget restrictions have limited the Council on Aging's services to Agawam seniors, and Friends answered the COA's request for a new pool table to keep the popular recreation uninterrupted.

Recent projects provided by Friends to benefit the Senior Center and its seniors include new Formica tables for the Center and recovering the Center's pool tables.

Past projects include a large screen video projector, a new stove and Hobart mixer for the Senior Center kitchen, a laser printer and an electronic BINGO machine for the Center, and a weeping cherry tree for the grounds.

Agawam Senior Ctr.'s Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 12th: Grape juice, shepherd's pie, carrot coins, oatmeal bread, tangerine.

Tuesday, February 13th: American chop suey, broccoli & cauliflower, garlic bread, canned apricots.

Wednesday, February 14th: Meatloaf with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, whole wheat bread, cherry cobbler.

Thursday, February 15th: Baked chicken breast, baked potato, mixed vegetables, pumpernickel bread, mixed fruit.

Friday, February 16th: Cream of asparagus soup, vegetable quiche, tossed salad, rye bread, lemon pudding with whipped topping.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

School Vacation Prog. Offered At Storowton Village Museum

Children ages seven to 12 can step into the 19th century and learn more about Early American Village life during Storowton Village Museum's winter vacation program, "A Day Away in the Past." The program will be offered twice, February 21st and 22nd, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Children spending a day away in the past will be dressed in period costumes provided by the Village and try their hand at crafts such as candle dipping, basketmaking, and fireplace cooking. They will also participate in old-fashioned games and experience the uniqueness of a one-room schoolhouse as they "take their lessons" from the "Schoolmistress."

The cost for the one-day program is \$25. To register or find out more about this unique historic program, call the Storowton Village Museum at (413) 787-0136.

All the local news with us, each week

Dr. Gary J. Graziano

is pleased to announce the relocation of his Chiropractic Practice to

**16 South Boulevard
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Family Eye Care

656 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills

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Dr. Richard Gallerani
Optometrist

Accepting:

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Children's Vision / Contact Lenses

Church News...

This Week's Happenings At St. David's Church

THE KIDS-4-CHRIST YOUTH GROUP for those in Grade K-4 will meet Saturday the 10th for sledding (weather permitting). Contact the Parish Office for further information.

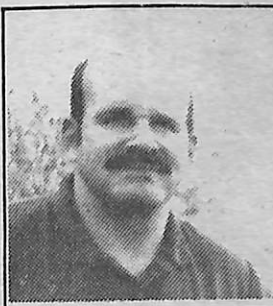
AT THE WEEKEND WORSHIP SERVICES, the Quiet Service, Saturday at 5:00 p.m., the Traditional Sunday at 8:00 a.m. (both at the church building), and the Contemporary Service Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (at the Agawam Middle School), the focus of the Scriptures, Song, and Message will be personal integrity: living truthfully and honestly in an age that often favors complicity and duplicity. Join us!

THE SERVICE/OUTREACH MINISTRIES will meet Monday the 12th at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the Service portion of the parish budget as well as new and old ideas for caring projects. Let's be lightly salted!

THE PASTOR AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE PARISH will be attending the Promise Keepers Men's Clergy Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, February 13th-16th, and expect to gather with 50,000 other clergy from across the country. Upon their return, they will report to the congregations gathered for worship February 17th-18th.

SMALL GROUPS ARE BEING READIED FOR LENT, focusing on prayer, study, and fellowship. Those interested in joining such a small group, set to meet for the six weeks of Lent, can contact the Parish Office for information about the various types of groups and their meeting places and times.

ST. DAVID'S WILL WELCOME THE REV. JOHN AND CAROL MAHER of Pennsylvania who will lead a weekend Conference at the Church Building February 16th-17th entitled, "Together in Jesus." Worship Services will be held Friday and Saturday nights at 7:00 p.m., and a number of smaller gatherings are planned for Saturday during the day.



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

The Kingdom Of Heaven Is Indeed For Today!

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

These words of Jesus Christ are found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter five, and with them Jesus begins His most famous collection of sayings, commonly known as the Sermon on the Mount.

Most, if not all of us, have at least heard of the Sermon on the Mount. This particular section is also called *The Beatitudes*, which comes from the Latin word for *blessings*. There is something very interesting about this list of blessings which Jesus pronounces.

Only two of the nine blessings are in the present tense, with the other seven all being promised for sometime in the future. Those seven blessings are all things which most of us would like to obtain; if not today, at least someday.

The casual reader might think the other two blessings should be promises for the future as well, as Jesus says: "for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." However, a closer observation reveals that this promise of the kingdom of heaven is actually very much in the present tense.

That which appeared to be interesting now becomes compelling, as we realize that the promise of Jesus Christ is we can have the kingdom of heaven today. Not sometime in the future, not after we die, but right now; today!

This sounds like a pretty good thing. Now that we know we can have it today, one of the only questions left is, does anybody know where it is or what it looks like? The answer to that question is yes, the kingdom of heaven is described for us in the Bible, in Romans 14:17.

"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit." The righteousness the Bible speaks of has two meanings.

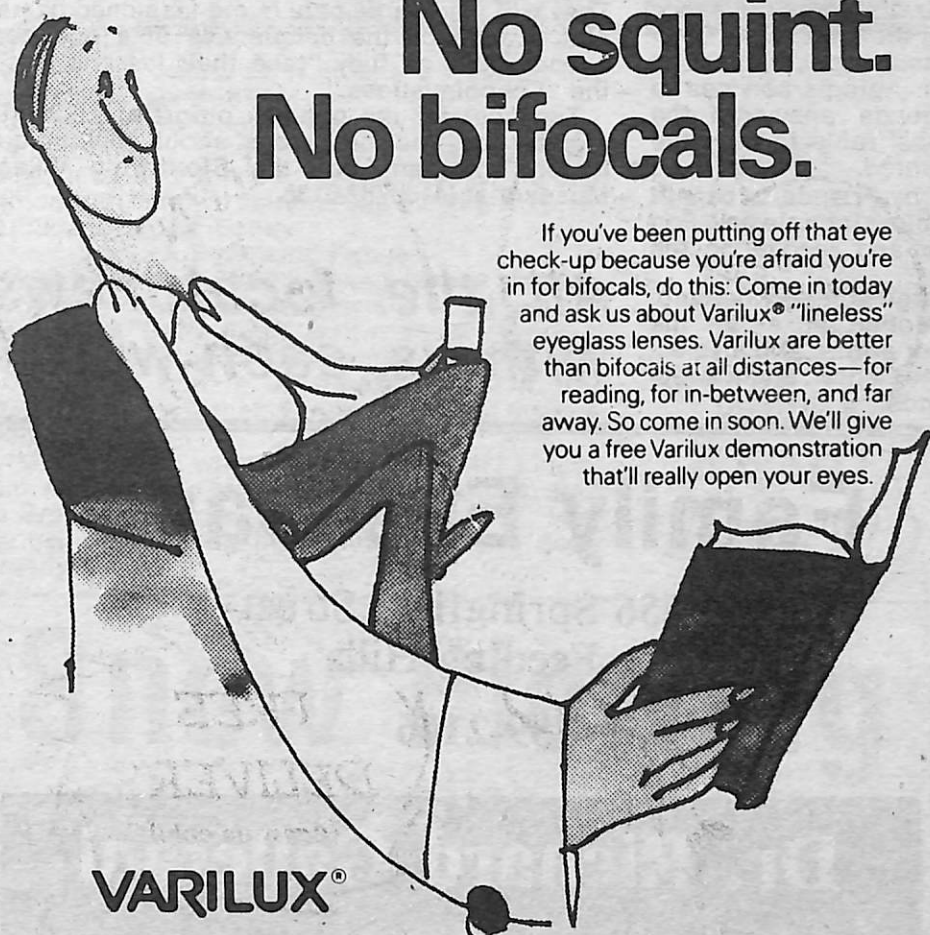
One of the meanings is "justification," which speaks of being forgiven all our sins by God. The other aspect of righteousness is one of wonderful personal closeness with God. Once we have been forgiven all our sins and experience a close and personal fellowship with God, it's not hard to understand where the peace and joy come from.

How can we have the kingdom of heaven today? Jesus said we must be "poor in spirit," which means we need to recognize and then confess our need for God's grace. As the prophet Micah said, we need to walk humbly with our God.

For some of us, that might represent a great challenge. Humility does not come naturally for some of us. Let us hear and respond to the entreaty of Jesus, when He said: "... learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

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Church News - continued...

Weekly Calendar From
Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, February 11th, is Boy Scout Recognition Sunday. Scout Troop No. 82 will have an Honor Guard for the service. Boy Scout Ushers will be Steve Sajkowski, Neal Miner, and Dan & Ken Shaw.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "What do good deeds really accomplish?" taken from the Text: 1 Corinthians 2:6-9. The Children's Message will be "What is your favorite color?"

Friendship "Family Night" Potluck Supper is scheduled for Sunday, February 11th, at 5:30 p.m. A-M bring a main dish, and N-Z bring a salad. Dessert is "Make your own sundae."

Entertainment for the evening (beginning at 6:30 p.m.) is John Porcino, a storyteller/folk singer.

The Wednesday night Midweek Service has changed to a new time, 7:30 p.m. Join us at this informal Worship Service with hymns, prayers, meditation, and communion.

Heifer Project begins Sunday, February 18th. Heifer Project International is a program developed to help people help themselves.

Each year money is collected by the Church School and congregation to send to Heifer International to buy a cow, sheep, rabbit, chicken, bees, or other farm animals to assist farmers become more independent and profitable.

Heifer Project Dedication Sunday is March 24, 1996.

A "Young At Heart Brunch" will be held Sunday, February 25th, at 12:00 noon. Senior citizens will be the "guests of honor" for this free brunch.

Soup and salad is the main menu with homemade pies for dessert. Sign up for this brunch at the Coffee Hours or call the church office at 786-7111 to make your reservation.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS
are always welcome.
Call us at 786-7747
or 786-8137.

Pancake Breakfast On Feb. 10th
At Feeding Hills Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School for children and adults begins at 9:00 a.m. Children are then welcome to attend morning worship with their parents at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Donaldson will preach a sermon entitled "God's Organic Garden." Nursery care will be provided.

The Youth Group will again delight us with a delicious Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, February 10th, from 8:30 until 11:00 a.m. This is a monthly fundraiser for the young people and a great way to warm your tummy!

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, muffins, and choice of beverage are included on the menu. All this for only \$2!

Faith Over Fear: A Lenten Journey is a six-week spiritual quest sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church and the Agawam Congregational Church.

The first three Sunday meetings in the series will take place at the Feeding Hills church on February 25th and March 3rd and 10th. The concluding three meetings will take place at the Agawam church on March 17th, 24th, and 31st.

The meetings will begin at 7:15 p.m. with prayer and singing, and will include a time for meditation and discussion.

Please call either the Feeding Hills Congregational Church at 786-5061 or the Agawam Congregational Church at 786-7111 for more information.

The Annual Meeting of the church which was held on Sunday, January 28th, was adjourned and will reconvene on Sunday, February 11th, immediately following morning worship.

Monthly Prayer Of Song For Families
At Dominican Nuns' Monastery Chapel

The monthly Hour of Prayer and Song for the families of the world will be held at the Dominican Nuns' Monastery Chapel, 1430 Riverdale Street, West Springfield, on Sunday, February 18th, at

The Christian Education Board spaghetti luncheon scheduled for February 11th will be postponed until February 25th.

The meal will include spaghetti, homemade bread, salad, beverage, and dessert.

This Sunday, February 11th, is Open Pantry Sunday. If you are able to bring a bag of groceries or any of the special request items, please do! If you were unable to do so, there will be envelopes available on the Open Pantry table for cash donations.

Also, volunteers are needed to make desserts for the Pantry for this coming Wednesday. If you are able to make a dessert (brownies, sheet cake, cookies, etc.), please have your contribution to the church kitchen by 12:00 noon on Wednesday. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in Griswold Hall.

Please note that the deadline for getting information into *The Informer* is Tuesday, February 13th.

There will be an evening worship service at this church on Ash Wednesday, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

On the calendar this week:
Saturday, February 10th: 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., Youth Group sponsored Pancake Breakfast.

Sunday, February 11th: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 10:00 a.m., Open Pantry Sunday; 11:00 a.m., Annual Meeting reconvenes; 2:00 p.m., Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby.

Monday, February 12th: 5:15 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Council.

Tuesday, February 13th: *Informer* deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Stewardship/Missions.

Wednesday, February 14th: 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

4:00 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend. The service will include the singing of Evening Prayer and the recitation of the rosary, sermon, and Benediction.

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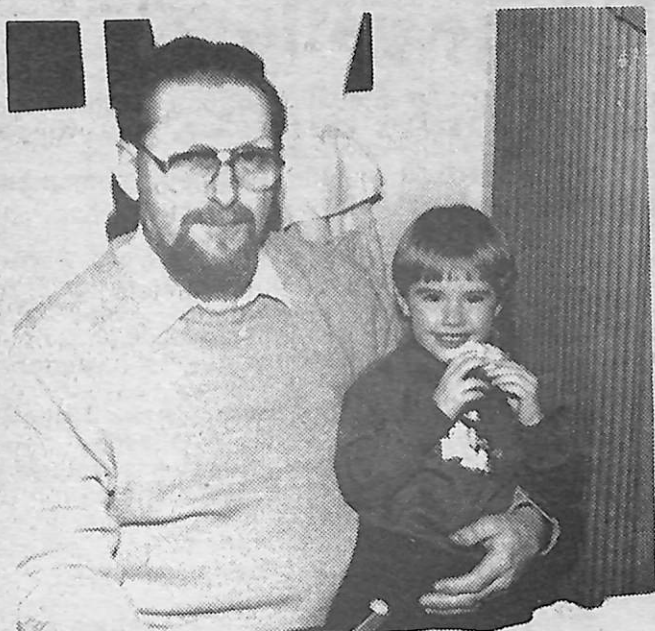
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Church News - continued...

Roast Pork Supper At United Methodist



THE AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH held a roast pork supper recently. From left -Richard Nelson and his granddaughter, Jessica Jenkins; and Jayme Kotowski, Shaun Trant, and Craig Sadowski all enjoy the fine meal. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Family Supper Slated For Feb. 17th At United Methodist

Agawam United Methodist Church will have a supper on February 17th at 5:30 p.m. Baked stuffed breast of chicken, salad, vegetable, and dessert will be served along with rolls and butter.

Due to the large response to past suppers, reservations are requested. Call Dana Henry at 789-0684.

The cost is \$5 for senior citizens, and \$6 for all others.

One-Day Bible Camp Being Planned For April Vacation

A planning meeting for the one-day April Vacation Bible Camp at Agawam Congregational Church, has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 20th, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting will be held in the Crib Room at the church. Bring your ideas, enthusiasm, and helpfulness to the meeting.

The One-Day Vacation Bible Camp will be Friday, April 19th.



SERVING AS HEAD CHEFS at the recent roast pork supper sponsored by the Agawam United Methodist Church were Karl Bernier and Ken Barrepski. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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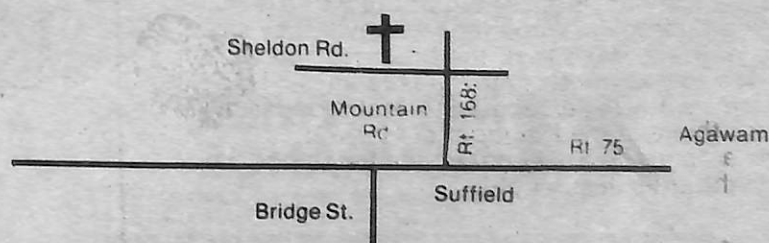
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Church News - continued...

Timeless Truth
For Today...

by Roger Martin, Pastor
Agawam Church
Of The Bible
(786-7908)

Collision

Another day. Bitterly cold. A bite of breakfast. The car won't start. A school bus missed. More attempts to start. Success. Feeling good. Drop the kids off. A kiss goodbye. Errands to run. A beautiful morning. Life is good.

A familiar road. Time to think. Sing a tune. The song fades. Something isn't right. Two cars. The wrong lane. An accident. A closer look. A bad accident. Head-on collision. No sirens. A car horn wails. Steam rises. An eerie stillness.

A narrow path around cars. Five miles per hour. Tires crunch glass. An unobstructed view. Much too close. One driver moves. One doesn't. About your father's age. A tear. Helplessness.

Foot on the brakes. A sober onlooker. A quick question. Police are coming. Numbness. Seconds seem like hours. Help arrives. You watch. You pray. You hope. You wonder.

The drivers. Their plans. A drive to the store? A laugh? Late to work? Singing a tune? Making vacation plans? Errands to run? A familiar road? A pause. An uneasy thought. Seconds earlier. Might have been you.

The ambulances leave. A heavy heart. You pull away. A slower pace. A familiar road. Errands to run. Another day. For you. An opportunity.

"Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." (James 4:14) *

"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near." (Isaiah 55:6) *

"For, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (forgiven and pardoned from the penalty of their sin) (Romans 10:13) *

"...I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." (2 Corinthians 6:2) *

* The Holy Bible, New International Version. Used by permission.

Our Attitude
vs. The Beattitudes

by Rev. John Parke, Associate Rector
St. David's Episcopal Church

We all long for happiness, and here Jesus, the Son of God, is telling us the attitudes in life that make for happiness. They are eight in number, and it is puzzling when we discover that they seem to say just the opposite from what the world tells us.

The world says, "Happy are the rich and famous, for they have got it made." Jesus says, "Happy are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."

The world says, "Happy are they who laugh a lot and crack many jokes and tell us to lighten up." Jesus says, "Happy are they who mourn - who feel deeply the hurts and sadness of others."

The world says, "Happy are the proud and pushy - they get to the head of the line and the best seats." Jesus says, "Happy are the meek, the humble, they shall inherit the earth."

The world says, "Happy are those who hunger for thrills and excitement." Jesus says, "Happy are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Number five: the videos tell our children, "Happy are the Power Rangers and the Terminators, they will straighten out the world." Jesus says, "Happy are the merciful, the loving, the forgiving, they will obtain mercy."

The world says, "Happy are the sexy, the seductive, the swingers; they are the ones who have fun." Jesus says, "Happy are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

The world says, "Happy are the feisty and the fighters." Jesus says, "Happy are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

And the last one, number eight: the world says, "Happy are they who when they see evil, they say and do nothing. Don't rock the boat, just go with the flow and you will be safe." Jesus says, "Happy are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."

What a contrast! To whom do we listen? Is the world right, or is Jesus right?

Best local news...

Valley Comm. Church
Slates Chicken Supper
For Sat., February 10th

With hope in our hearts and prayers to "Mother Nature," Valley Community Church will once again attempt to hold their monthly chicken supper on Saturday, February 10th.

The menu will consist of baked chicken, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, cranberry sauce, olives, pickles, rolls with butter, and a beverage. Also included is your choice from our community-famous, ever-changing, homemade dessert table.

The cost is only \$6.50 for adults and \$3.25 for children, and continuous servings are available from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m.

Reservations are strongly suggested by calling the church at 786-2445 or Shirley Taylor at 786-2576.

If our hopes and prayers should go unanswered, weather cancellations can be heard on WMAS or WHYH AM/FM.

Evening Playgroup At
Ag. Congregational

An Evening Playgroup will be held on Tuesday evenings at Agawam Congregational Church from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for 10 weeks.

Sessions will be held on March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th (no session on April 16th), May 7th, 14th, and 21st. A fee will be charged to cover operating expenses.

The Playgroup will offer playtime, crafts, snacks, singing and dancing, fun and friendship for children and adults alike. This Playgroup is limited to 12 families, so ... sign up now and reserve your place in this most unique group!

Call Grace Tilden at the church (786-7111) for reservations and more information.

Catholic Women Plan
To Meet Feb. 12th

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will meet in the Parish Center of St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St. on Monday, February 12th at 8:00 p.m.

President Gloria Colby will conduct a brief business meeting.

Program chairwoman Beverly Boudreau will present local TV personality Kathy Tobin, news anchor for Channel 40.

Mrs. Terry Longo, hospitality chairwoman, will be assisted by Kay Capitanio, Martha Jerry, Pauline Paquette, Paula Raiche, Peg Saliba, Pat Sherry, Viola Smith, and Ann Sorel.

Guests are welcome to attend this meeting.

First Baptist Church
To Celebrate
Special Family Sunday

A special family night celebration will be held at First Baptist Church, corner of Elm and Main Streets, this Sunday evening.

A pot luck supper will be held at 5:30 p.m. This will be followed by a fun time with talents shared by our own members and friends.

Come and be a part of this special event!

At morning worship, Guest Preacher Tim Deik will speak on "The Word of the Lord," using as his text 2 Timothy 3: 10-17.

Classes for all ages will follow the coffee and conversation time in Davis Hall.

On our calendar this week:

Monday, February 12th - 7:30 p.m., Social Action Committee.

Tuesday, February 13th - 10:00 a.m., Searchlighters Circle; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class.

Wednesday, February 14th - 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

Thursday, February 15th - 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:00 p.m., Take Out and Talk Out Discussion; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Friday, February 16th - Senior High Youth Group "no-sleep-over."

The Caring Connection contacts for the month of February are Sharon and Doug Grabowski (860-668-0450). Call them if you have any caring concerns.

Lenten Series Called
"Faith Over Fear"
To Start Feb. 25th

A Lenten Series titled "Faith Over Fear - A Lenten Journey" will be co-sponsored by the Feeding Hills and Agawam Congregational Churches.

The program will be held on Sunday nights at 7:15 p.m. for six weeks, beginning February 25th. It will meet for the first three weeks at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, and then move to the Agawam Congregational Church for the final three weeks.

Revs. Donaldson and Fuller will lead the series of song, prayer, meditation, and discussion. Childcare will be provided.

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Spotlight On Business

Century
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by
John Schuler
Real Estate
Consultant



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Childproofing Your Home

It's a known fact ... children, especially those under the age of five, get into *EVERYTHING* in and around your home. Inquisitive minds love to investigate every nook and cranny of the home—crawling into cabinets and under beds; opening boxes, bottles, and jars intended for adult hands; and playing with household items that make dangerous toys.

The startling reality is that more than 5,000 children in the United States are injured in household accidents every year.

"Childproofing" an entire home is almost impossible. The next best thing parents can do is be knowledgeable about the potential dangers and take simple steps to prevent common and avoidable accidents. By creating a check list to identify the potential hazards in your home, you may save the life of your child or reduce the potential for injury.

The following are a few basic precautions that every parent should take to create a safer environment.

Cover or lock all of your electrical sockets. Electric shock is a common cause of injury to small children. Most hardware stores carry plastic "plugs" for insertion into electrical outlets that are not in use. This affordable safeguard will eliminate the danger caused by wandering little fingers. Also check your electrical cords. Are they in good condition and free from cuts that may expose an open wire?

Store household cleaners and other hazardous substances in a safe place. All cleaning supplies and containers holding toxic fluids should be kept on upper shelves, safely out of a child's reach, rather than beneath the sink or in a lower cabinet. Your local hardware store carries a variety of "childproof" cabinet locks and latches that are easy to install and effectively prevent children from opening doors.

Dispose of used plastic bags from dry cleaners and stores or keep them in a safe place. Plastic bags of almost any size can be extremely dangerous for small children who enjoy playing "hide and seek" by burying their faces. If the bag becomes twisted or knotted, a child can easily suffocate in a matter of minutes.

Protect toddlers from dangerous falls by placing gates at the top and bottom of your stairway. To protect the entire family from injury, keep toys, roller skates, tools, and other objects off the stairwell at all times.

Watch young children when they are in the bathtub. Make certain that all electrical appliances, such as hair dryers, electric shavers, and radios, are unplugged or kept at a distance from splashing water and the little bathers.

Keep all medicines, pills, and vitamins locked in cabinets out of the reach of children. Toddlers love to put things in their mouths and "taste" everything with which they come into contact. Aspirin, sleeping pills, and prescription drugs can be fatal to a curious child. Don't let your kids play doctor with your medicine chest!

Screen your open windows securely. For obvious reasons, this is especially important for residents who live in high-rise apartments, townhouses, or condominiums.

Test your paint for lead content in all areas accessible to children. Lead poisoning is a growing cause of concern for homeowners throughout the nation. If your home was built before 1978, the painters may have used a lead-base covering. Contact your local health department to find out more about the dangers of lead paint and proper removal procedure.

Make your kitchen child-safe. Equip the drawers and cupboards with sturdy latches. Point the handles of pots and pans away from the edge of the stove when cooking. Keep matches in drawers out of a child's reach. Take an inventory of the items in your kitchen and make certain that any sharp or breakable objects are properly stored.

Richy B's Fine Food At Twin Silos Complex



RICHY B'S FINE FOOD has recently located into the Twin Silos Complex on Suffield Street from its former Main Street location. Owner and operator Richy B'Shara (below) says business has been great and invites all old and new customers to stop by for breakfast and lunch seven days a week. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Keep your garden tools, such as power mowers, hedge trimmers, and snow blowers, behind locked doors. Ensure that your yard is free from nails, jagged glass, and poisonous chemicals or materials. A well-maintained back yard can be a safe place for children to play if all hazards are removed.

By following these basic safety tips, you can protect your entire family from unnecessary danger. You should, however, be prepared for any household accident. Learn basic first aid and how to administer CPR.

Also teach your small children how to handle a crisis in the event that one or more parent is incapacitated. Show them at an early age how to use the phone and dial an emergency number. Be sure they memorize their home address and phone number.

Whether you're reviewing the safety of your home for little ones or making your residence more attractive for potential homebuyers with children, a "childproof" environment is well worth the small investment of time and money required.



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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Agents Of The Month



CHET KASPEREK, manager of George & Green Real Estate, headquartered in Agawam Center, has named **Vinnie Rettura** (center) as the top listing agent for December, and **John Langevin** (right) as the top sales agent. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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BUSINESS REVIEW

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Towne Insurance Agency, Inc.

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One of the most professional insurance agencies in this area is **Towne Insurance Agency**, located in Agawam at 100 Main Street, phone 786-3535. They have become experts in solving difficult insurance problems for the homeowner and the businessman.

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Call them for a free consultation today. The experts at **Towne Insurance Agency** are waiting to hear from you. Give them a call and let them assist you with your personal or business insurance needs. You can be assured of first-class, personalized service when you put this firm in charge.

Southwick Cleaners

Lee Rullmann, New Owner/Operator

Today, clothing costs more than ever before, but even the most expensive clothing won't look its best without proper care. However, by having your clothes professionally dry cleaned at **Southwick Cleaners**, they'll not only look great, but can last up to four times longer.

Southwick Cleaners, located in Southwick at 515 College Highway, phone 569-0699, offers a first-rate dry cleaning service to the people of this area. Whether it's a suit, coat, dress, pair of slacks or sweater, their trained operators using the most modern cleaning techniques will give your clothes that extra special look. Your finest draperies, comforters, wedding gowns and most delicate garments deserve their careful attention. Leather, suede and fur refinishing are also specialties of this establishment. In addition, they feature an expert alteration service for bridal gowns, leather, suede, furs, draperies and clothing. From hems in skirts or slacks to repairs of small tears or seam work, their experienced tailor will make durable yet inconspicuous alterations.

They also feature all kinds of shoe repairing, giving you the best in workmanship and fast service. For your convenience, **Southwick Cleaners** is open Monday through Saturday. Stop in soon and give your clothing and shoes the kind of care that will make them look great and last for years to come.

End Results Vladimir Dzhendzheruha & Sandra Clayton, Licensed Massage Therapists, AMTA Members

There is nothing more therapeutic for the mind and body than that of a good massage. Health enthusiasts, local athletes, senior citizens and residents concerned about their overall well-being have all benefited from massage therapy performed by the therapists at **End Results**. They are located in Feeding Hills at 5 North Westfield Street, and can be reached by phoning 786-6556.

Headaches, backaches, stress reduction, neck pain and shoulder pain can all be melted away in no time by the skilled hands of the massage therapists at **End Results**. They specialize in Swedish and deep muscle massage as well as sports and Shiatsu massage. If your feet are up for a little pampering, let them perform reflexology on them. Applying various pressure on points of the foot enables the therapist to work many different segments of the body. More and more people are now realizing the true overall benefits of therapeutic massage, and you can, too.

Take time for yourself. Whether you choose a half hour or full hour treatment, your body and mind will feel revitalized upon the completion of your session. So go ahead—you deserve it. Call the licensed massage therapists at **End Results** at 786-6556 today. Make that commitment towards therapeutic wellness. Your body will thank you for it!

River Auto Service/Garden Auto Sales

Dan & Pete Borkosky, Owners

Are you thinking of buying a used car but are worried about ending up with a clunker? So many times buying a used car is buying the problems of the last owner.

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For Your Health

Women's Self Defense At Fitness First

Women can learn how to protect themselves on Thursday, February 22nd, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Fitness First in Feeding Hills. It will be the first in a series of four seminars entitled "Women's Self Defense Clinic" featuring Grandmaster Mike Wollmershauser.

Three years ago, Fitness First offered this seminar to a packed audience. The club anticipated this seminar to be equally as popular, as women seek new (and old) ways to protect themselves.

This clinic will be the first in a series of four clinics to follow to show women the importance of self defense and how they can protect themselves.

Specific topics women will learn will be how to defend themselves, what easy physical techniques she can use to ward off an attacker, and what precautions she should use. All women are strongly urged to attend this seminar before a difficult situation presents itself to you.

There is a \$3 per person fee that will be donated to the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter. Call Fitness First at (413) 786-1460 or stop by the club at 60 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills to register. Preregistration is required, as seating is limited.

Dr. Buddy Denison Receives Membership To Crown Council

Planned Marketing Associates founder Mr. Walter Hailey is pleased to announce the nomination and acceptance of Dr. Buddy L. Denison for Charter Membership into the Crown Council.

The Crown Council is an exclusive, international, results-based collaborative or Master-Mind alliance for dentists. Being a Crown Council member signifies that Dr. Denison ranks in the top 20 percent of all dentists nationwide in quality, patient satisfaction, production, and profitability.

Crown Council membership provides three key advantages to Dr. Denison and his staff. These include specialized knowledge in the form of seminars, satellite conventions, daily faxes, computer Bulletin Board Service, and a newsletter; recognition for his achievements at the annual Crown Council event; and networking opportunities with other like-minded high achievers.

By submitting documentation proving that he meets stringent criteria, Dr. Denison will have the option to apply for Charter Qualified Membership in the Crown Council and will hence be eligible to serve on the Board of Governors on a rotating basis.

"I am honored to have been accepted into such an elite association as the Crown Council. I look forward to participating as much as possible in all the benefits Crown Council membership has to offer myself, my staff, and our patients as well," Dr. Denison said.

Dr. Buddy L. Denison practices aesthetic and reconstructive dentistry at 46 Suffield Street, Agawam.



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Putting New Dietary Guidelines Into Practice

The nation's largest organization of food and nutrition professionals has endorsed the recently released *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, Fourth Edition, and offers suggestions for putting the guidelines into practice.

"This is a great opportunity for nutrition and health professionals to show people just how easy it is to make good nutrition choices," said Doris Derelian, Ph.D., R.D., president of the 66,500-member American Dietetic Association. "The *Dietary Guidelines* are the bottom line—the cornerstone for the recommendations made by health and nutrition professionals. We commend the government for providing such a valuable tool."

From the ADA, here are some day-to-day applications of the revised *Dietary Guidelines* for Americans:

Eat a variety of foods.

Incorporate new foods into your eating plan. At the supermarket, but one new fruit and vegetable each week. At home, try one new recipe or prepared food a week. Keep in mind that you don't need to give up favorite foods to enjoy healthful eating. Balance a variety of selections from all food groups over the course of a day and week.

Balance the food you eat with physical activity; maintain or improve your weight.

Gradual changes go a long way toward healthy, lifelong habits. So when adding physical activity to your routine or working toward healthy body weight, start with small steps. For example, take stairs instead of the elevator. If healthy body weight is your goal, pay special attention to portion sizes. You might be surprised to learn that the bowl of cereal you had this morning actually adds up to three or four servings.

Choose a diet low in fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol.

Again, make small changes you can live with. One easy step is to choose foods in the same

food category with less fat. For example, don't give up milk because of the fat content. Instead drink two-percent, low-fat, or skim milk. And remember, the guideline is for your total diet, not individual foods. Foods with higher and lower amounts of fat should balance each other as part of a healthful eating plan.

Choose a diet with plenty of grain products, vegetables, and fruits.

Think of your plate as a pie. Seventy-five percent of the pie should be made up of fruits, vegetables, and grains; the other 25 percent should be comprised of other foods such as dairy products or protein foods.

Choose a diet moderate in sugars, salt, and sodium.

These are the "extras" that can liven up your diet, but should be added to foods in moderation. Keep in mind that sugars and sodium are found in a variety of foods from the food groups. So, get to know the Food Guide Pyramid and use the Nutrition Facts panel on food labels.

The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, as well as tools such as the Food Guide Pyramid and Nutrition Facts food label, play a vital role in helping the public apply nutrition science to everyday food practice, according to the ADA. The association pointed out, however, that the guidelines are population-based, and are not a general prescription for each and every person.

"The guidelines are a set of instructions on which to base food and nutrition decisions once individual needs are determined," Derelian said. "For example, if someone has a family history of premature heart disease, that person should probably pay particular attention to the guidelines stating 'choose a diet low in fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol.'"

If people have questions about the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* or other food and nutrition issues, they can call the Consumer Nutrition Hot Line of ADA's National Center for Nutrition and Dietetics at 800-366-1655 and speak with a registered dietitian or locate one in their area for nutrition counseling.

Registered dietitians answer questions weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Recorded nutrition messages on a variety of topics are available weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call 789-0053.

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For Your Health - continued...



**Chiropractic
Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson**
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Promoting Better Nutrition...

Health care costs are a great concern for everyone. Smaller companies can get started towards wellness and health with little or no investment.

Some steps companies can take to promote better nutritional habits in employees are:

1. Put a picnic table outside (perhaps wait until Spring!).
2. Invite Weight Watchers to use meeting rooms.
3. Print a better health shopping list.
4. Buy a microwave oven.
5. Put a scale by the coffeepot.
6. Provide salt and sugar substitutes (honey, maple syrup—not saccharine or Equal).
7. Offer alternatives to coffee.
8. Start a vending machine awareness program.
9. Announce a "Healthy Lunchbox Day."
10. Substitute bran muffins and fresh fruits for donuts.

Steps companies can take to promote activity and exercise:

1. Encourage employees to park at the far end of the parking lot.
2. Hold exercise sessions after work and at lunch.
3. Buy aerobic exercise cassettes or videotapes for employees.
4. Encourage employees to use the stairs.
5. Schedule regular stretch breaks.
6. Buy or supplement memberships in health clubs.
7. Provide maps of walking and jogging areas near work.
8. Encourage employees to ride bikes (install bike racks).
9. Support volleyball, baseball, softball, bowling leagues, etc.

Steps companies can take to manage stress:

1. Create a quiet room.
2. Buy a blood pressure machine and train someone to use it.
3. Buy relaxation tapes and self-help cassettes. To promote overall health:
1. Designate a bulletin board for health information only.
2. Subscribe to health magazines.
3. Build a library of self-help books and cookbooks.
4. Form support groups for employees' health information.
5. Provide workshops on better health.
6. Hold brown bag lunches once a month and invite local experts to speak on the topics of nutrition, weight control, stopping smoking, alcohol abuse, first aid techniques, balancing career and family, etc.
7. Offer noontime workshops on women's health issues.
8. Conduct health risk appraisals and medical screenings (glaucoma, high blood pressure, diabetes, etc.).
9. Support a health fair and encourage employees to attend.

Take action now. Make 1996 a healthy one! Dr. Tami Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA. She can be reached at 786-4820. Dr. Nelson is available for speaking engagements and health and fitness lectures at your facilities, call the office for further information.

Best local news...



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At Blood Bank At
Mercy Hospital

Give a Valentine's gift someone will never forget. Give the "Gift of Life," by becoming a blood donor at Mercy Hospital's Blood Bank.

Blood donation at Mercy Hospital is also a good way to keep tabs on one's own health. Donors receive a free mini-checkup that includes blood pressure, blood iron, and cholesterol testing. And all February, donors will receive discount gift certificates to area restaurants.

Donors must be 18 or older (17 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Blood Bank hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 8:15 a.m.-4:00 p.m., with Wednesday and Thursday hours extended until 7:00 p.m.

Appointments are recommended; call (413) 748-9511 for more information.

Child Self-Esteem
Program Has Been
Rescheduled

The special seminar "CREATING HIGH SELF-ESTEEM and EMPOWERMENT FOR CHILDREN AGES 9 to 14" has been rescheduled to Saturday, February 10th. (The seminar was originally slated for February 3rd, but it was cancelled due to snow.)

The program will take place from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. and will be led by Dr. Steve Sobel, director and founder of The New England Institute For Stress Management of West Springfield.

The program will be held at 425 Union Street in West Springfield, and pre-registration is needed by calling 785-1259.

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Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
Sweet Life 2% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.09
Hood Chocolate Milk (½ Gallon)	\$1.19
Hood Light Cream (Quart)	.99°

SEAFOOD

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Cooked Tail-On Shrimp (31-40 Ct.)	\$8.99 Lb.

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For Your Health - continued...



SHANNON MCDERMOTT

Shannon McDermott To Benefit From Epilepsy Dinner

As part of our continuing series introducing to the Agawam community individuals and families whose lives are affected daily by epilepsy, we'd like you to meet Shannon McDermott.

Shannon is eight years-old and is in the second grade in Marshfield, MA. Shannon lives with her Mom and Dad and 11 year-old sister, Erin. She loves to play with her dog and her bunny rabbit. Shannon is also very busy with her Brownie troop and is a member of a bowling team.

Shannon has been battling uncontrolled epilepsy since the age of two. During the past six years, Shannon has been hospitalized over a dozen times and has endured three brain surgeries. She has been in a life-or-death situation in the ICU unit twice in her eight years of life.

Shannon traveled to John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore to try the Ketogenic Diet, which didn't prove to be the answer for her. Shannon and her family will soon be traveling to Canada to try a new drug available there. She has been on prayer lines all over the world and has attended healing masses; she's tried nutritionists and chiropractors, all to no avail.

Currently, Shannon is on four different medications and must consume 21 pills a day, and she still suffers approximately 100 seizures a day. These medications delay Shannon's progress and interfere with her living her life like her peers.

As in the cases of the two other children you've met so far, Michael Pietroniro and Nichole Martel, Shannon has tried every medication available for seizures in this country, but still continues to suffer every day with no relief in sight.

Along with the hundreds of other families in Massachusetts whose lives are disrupted by epilepsy, these children and their families are endlessly searching for the key to unlock their suffering, and it is only through research that these answers will be found.

The McDermott family and their friends will be traveling from Marshfield to Agawam on March 9, 1996 to join others dedicated to funding research projects through the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts at the Second Annual Dinner Dance for Epilepsy. The dance will be held at The Oaks Banquet Hall in Agawam and will feature the 50's rock-and-roll show band, "THE CRESCENTS."

For ticket information, please call: Janet & Gary Shean (786-2709), Sue & Wayne Hearn (789-1529), Diane & Steve Penna (786-9284), or Rich & Kathy Karem (786-5426).

Breaking Bad Habits Class With Nancy Dell

Discover how to handle a food craving, take control of stress eating, and to break bad habits and adopt good ones at "Using Your Mind To Lose Weight," Nancy Dell's February wellness seminar at Fitness First. The seminar will be held on Monday, February 12th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is recommended. All interested persons should call (786-1460) or stop by Fitness First to register. Seating is limited, and there's a \$3 fee per person.



Living Well

by Rick Hersom
Fitness Director
Fitness First Health
and Fitness Center
60 N. Westfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-1460

Parents Also Need To Exercise

Most parents probably know that exercising can increase your metabolism, help you to lose weight, strengthen muscles, increase endurance energy level, and decrease stress just to name a few benefits.

The sum of all these benefits equals a parent who is able to enjoy their children and better perform the other roles they may have in life. So why then is it so hard for many parents to exercise?

Problem: First parents need to realize that it is okay for them to exercise. Many people feel guilty because they are not spending every free second they have with their children.

Solution: Exercise with your child. Walk with them in a stroller, or bring them to a health club that has a quality nursery like Fitness First. Your child will have a great time and not want to leave.

Problem: Not enough time.

Solution: It is important to set a good example for your child, and it is important to teach your children that exercise is an important part of staying healthy. If a doctor were to tell you that you would end up in the hospital if you did not exercise, I believe most people would find the time.

Problem: I tried to exercise at home but did not stick with it.

Solution: Try exercising with a friend at home or a health club. When you exercise by yourself at home, there are too many distractions and no external factors to motivate you. At a health club like Fitness First, there are many different types of equipment, classes, wellness seminars, incentive programs, and motivational programs to keep you interested in exercising.

After all is said and done, exercising is very important for parents to function at their best. Try exercising with your kids, with a friend or spouse, try a quality health club, or try all three. Just do it!

Check our classified

Women's Wellness Part Of Forum At Fitness First Feb. 13th

Fitness First Health & Fitness Center, together with Noble Hospital, *Women Unlimited* Magazine, and Health New England, will be sponsoring a special **Women's Wellness Forum** entitled "Taking Care of Yourself" on Tuesday, February 13th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Fitness First in Feeding Hills.

There are three speakers scheduled for the evening. Robert S. Wool, M.D., OB-GYN, has been practicing at Noble Hospital since 1988, and he is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Wool also holds a faculty teaching position with the Tufts University School of Medicine.

Dawn Sanders Turgeon, R.N., C, is the Psychiatric Nurse Manager for the inpatient unit at Noble Hospital. She is certified in psychiatric and mental health nursing, and has been practicing for over 13 years.

Heather Giordano, M.S., Exercise Physiology, is currently a fitness consultant at Fitness First and Canyon Ranch Health Spa. Heather has given over 50 speaking engagements to various organizations on a variety of topics including women's health issues.

This Forum will address women's health issues, such as: Osteoporosis, Menopause, Women's Stress, and the Importance of Exercise. There will be exhibit booths with informational materials and representatives to answer questions on sensitive topics.

Exhibitors include Noble Hospital, *Women Unlimited* Magazine, Fitness First, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Diabetes, the YWCA, and more.

Pre-registration is required at Fitness First by calling 786-1460 or stopping by. A \$5 donation per person will benefit the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter.

"Better Breathers" To Meet At Noble Hosp.

Noble Hospital's Better Breather's Support Group will meet on Monday, February 12th, at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room A located on the ground floor of the hospital.

To register for the support group, call the Respiratory Department at 568-2811, ext. 5986.

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Arts

Westfield Theatre Group To Present Evening Of Cabaret

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, is pleased to present an evening of Cabaret music featuring Jay Ducharme and Karen Dion. This special performance will be held on Saturday, February 10th at 8:00 p.m. at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street in Westfield.

The program will include many favorite love songs, including old standards such as "It Had to be You" and "Three Coins in the Fountain," plus some show tunes and Ducharme's original songs. Some special guests will also appear as part of this fun evening.

Jay Ducharme has been a familiar face in the local music scene for nearly a decade. He has performed in many are clubs, and is the Open Stage host for Amherst's Black Sheep Deli Cafe. He has released six albums of original songs. He made his debut with the Westfield Theatre Group as Jud in their recent production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" He also directed their most recent production, "Thirteen Past Midnight."

Karen Dion has been Musical Director for the Westfield Theatre Group for many productions, including "Bye Bye Birdie," "The King and I," and "Anything Goes." Her skill as a pianist has kept her in great demand for functions at Westfield State College and for other area theatre groups. She and Jay now perform regularly together across Western Massachusetts.

Ticket prices for this heartfelt evening of crowd-pleasing songs are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. All tickets are general admission. Reservations can be made by calling 572-6838. Seating on the main level will be cabaret style, and refreshments will be available throughout the evening. Come and enjoy some great entertainment with the Westfield Theatre Group.

Valentine's Cabaret At Red Door Theatre In Feeding Hills

Stage III will present its second annual VALENTINE'S CABARET at the Red Door Theatre, 152 So. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills on February 9th and 10th at 7:30 p.m.

"ONE ENCHANTED EVENING" is a fun-filled sentimental production featuring romantic music, comedy, and a newly scripted one-act entitled "HOME MOVIES" by Steven Russo.

The music is a collage of songs from Broadway, Pop, and Country music centering on the Valentine theme of Love.

"HOME MOVIES" depicts the loving life of Carl and Norma who are now in their 70's. Although the play is about love, the presentation of the theme will surprise you.

"ONE ENCHANTED EVENING" features award-winning actors/singers Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora and is a cabaret with all the trimmings. Patrons are seated at candle-lit tables complete with complimentary bottle of non-alcoholic champagne, a chocolate heart, and even a silk rose.

Refreshments may be purchased from the snack bar or patrons may bring their own basket of goodies. Tables are set for groups of two to six. Tickets are \$20 per couple and reservations are a must.

Why not take your special someone to an evening not soon to be forgotten! For reservations, call 789-2026.

Suffield Players To Hold Auditions For Spring '96 Production

Suffield: The Suffield Players will hold auditions for its next production, "Les Liaisons Dangereuses," on Sunday, February 25th, at 6:00 p.m. sharp, and Monday, February 26th, at 7:30 p.m. at Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Avenue, Suffield, CT.

The cast is comprised of three males 24 years of age or older; one male between 18 and 24; five females 24 or older; and one female between 18 and 24 years of age.

The show dates are April 25th, 26th, 27th, May 3rd, 4th, 10th, 11th, 17th, and 18th. Scripts are available at Kent Memorial Library.

For further information, call 1-860-741-6929.

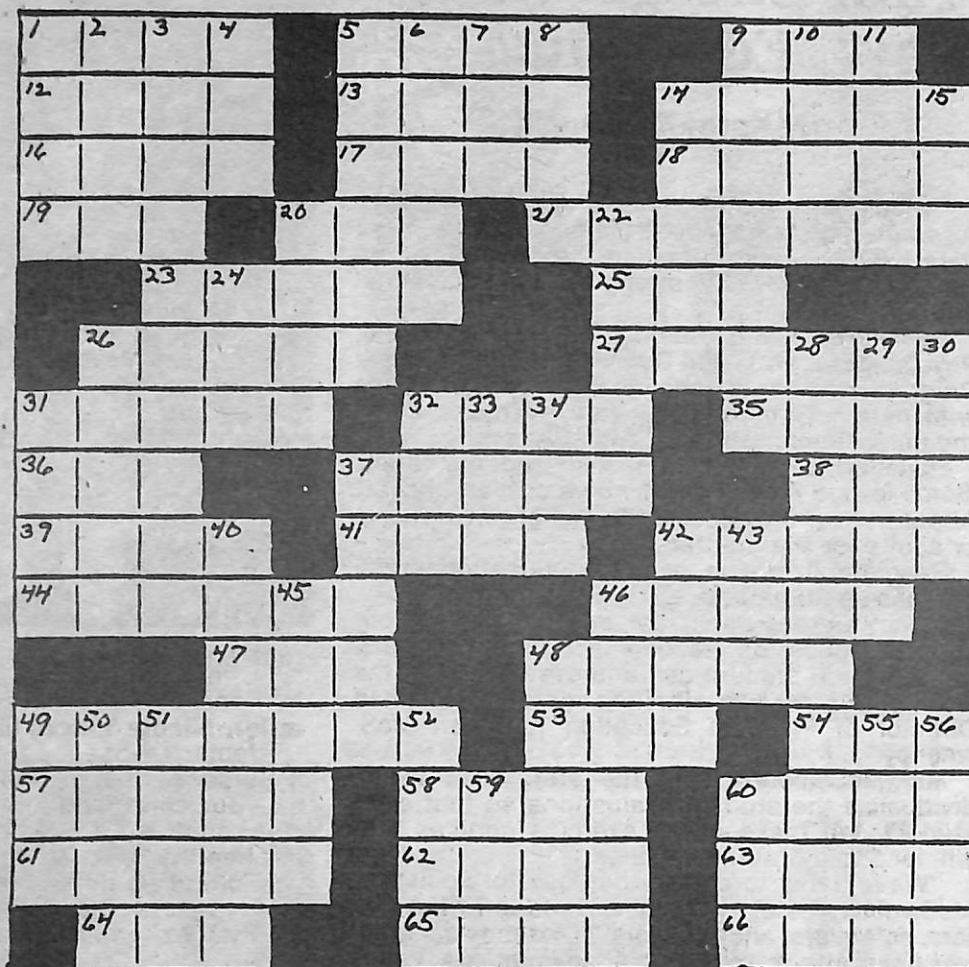
ACROSS

- 1 Mexican peninsula
- 5 Arctic sea
- 9 "— not for me to say"
- 12 Cupid
- 13 Ron Howard's youthful role
- 14 Hitler
- 16 Repose
- 17 Insignificant amount
- 18 Weary
- 19 Compass heading
- 20 A.G.'s Indians
- 21 Carmen with fruit bowl hats
- 23 County and state events
- 25 Dickens' tiny one
- 26 Word to Dolly Levy
- 27 Boundary markers
- 31 "— looking at you"
- 32 Scourge
- 35 Indian Ocean island
- 36 "Keep one's — to the ground"
- 37 Like Oscar Madison
- 38 "— for tat"
- 39 State
- 41 Mine entrance
- 42 Three a day events
- 44 Sentence ender
- 46 Dean Martin's Matt
- 47 Org. G. Bush resigned from
- 48 Kids' favorite desert
- 49 Type of diversion
- 53 Altitude (abbr.)
- 54 Semi
- 57 Small edible mushroom
- 58 "Fair-to-middlin'"
- 60 "For — jolly good..."
- 61 "Not on ——" (refusal)

DOWN

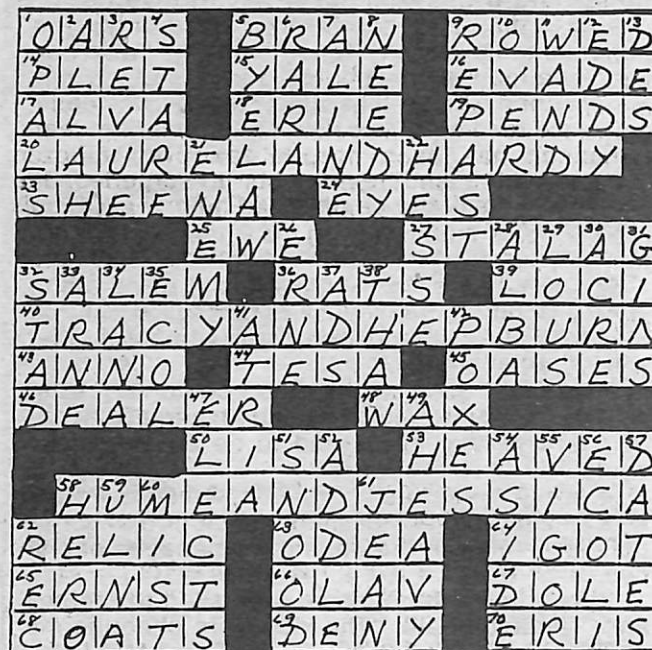
- 1 Farm structure
- 2 Service finale
- 3 Actor from Santurce, P.R.
- 4 Golfer Wall
- 5 Latin actor Cesar
- 6 Starts a poker hand
- 7 "Little — Echo"
- 8 Appear
- 9 African despot
- 10 Ripped apart
- 11 Santa's vehicle
- 14 Courtyards of Roma
- 15 Gov. agency
- 20 Sesames

MEET THE MASTER — by Dick Mastroianni



- 22 Need scratching
- 24 Cafe drink
- 26 Throw with effort
- 28 Actress from Huma-cao, P.R.
- 29 Spads and brads
- 30 Atlantic fast flyers
- 31 Pile
- 32 Showed the way
- 33 "— was saying"
- 34 Fast flyer
- 37 Palindromic title
- 40 Horseshoes winners
- 42 Thaw
- 43 Kitchen alcove
- 45 Papal cape
- 46 Serfs of yore
- 48 Argot owner
- 49 Var. of Emma
- 50 Cyst
- 51 Relative of darn
- 52 Noble Italian family name
- 55 Egyptian goddess
- 56 Guns to a mobster
- 59 Bobby of hockey
- 60 Shed

Last Week's Solution...



Local Magician At Agawam Public Library

The Agawam Public Library has invited local magician Ed Popielarczyk back on Wednesday, February 21st, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. for some school vacation fun.

School-aged kids are invited to share the fun of

this lively magic show. After the program, Ed will design one of his famous "balloon creations" for each youngster in attendance to take home.

Preregistration is a must, so call 789-1550, or stop by at 750 Cooper Street if you'd like to attend.



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Education

AHS Students Show Their Strength In Phys. Ed. Testing

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Twice a year, the freshmen and sophomores at Agawam High School push themselves to achieve their personal best in testing their flexibility, endurance, upper body strength, and abdominal strength.

Sponsored by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Dance, the Personal Best Program compares individual student's scores with national standards in four events: running the mile, sit-ups, pull-ups, and sit/reach.

Reaction to the program from students varies. Some love it; some hate it; some grin and bear it. About what you'd expect from any group of teens, or adults for that matter.

Reaction from the physical education staff? Thumbs-up all around.

"What's great about the program is that our physical education teachers include suggestions for how each student can improve as part of the printout they receive with their scores," explained Director of Physical Education Kathleen McSweeney.

Ms. McSweeney said the staff tries to individualize the student evaluations so that each student can make better exercise choices that will lead to a lifetime of fitness.

"We're trying to prepare our kids for society," McSweeney said. "We can train kids to be doctors, scientists, and teachers, but if they die at 40 of a heart attack, we haven't done our jobs. We're hoping to get the kids interested in fitness and exercise programs for the rest of their lives."

Winners of the "Personal Best Awards" attributed their success to a variety of reasons.

Sophomore **Joe Heneghan** said being a member of the varsity track team and freshman and junior varsity basketball teams helped him become the fastest 10th grader in the mile run.

For **Alain Dion**, a part-time job working on construction with his father made the difference.

Freshmen **Dave Thomas** and **Barbara Maloni** agreed they were the fastest in their class as a result of being members on the Cheetahs running team during the summer.

Sometimes it's not just the agony of defeat in sports. Winning can be just as painful, according to **Justin Bushey** and **Ron Ogulewicz**, who tied with 70 sit-ups each.

"I was just going as hard as I could no matter how much it hurt," Ron said. Justin agreed. "It got hard at the end, but I tried to do as many as I could."

In her fifth year as a gymnast, **Amanda Peters** was amused at her classmates' reaction to her 12 pull-ups—most of the other girls managed one or two.

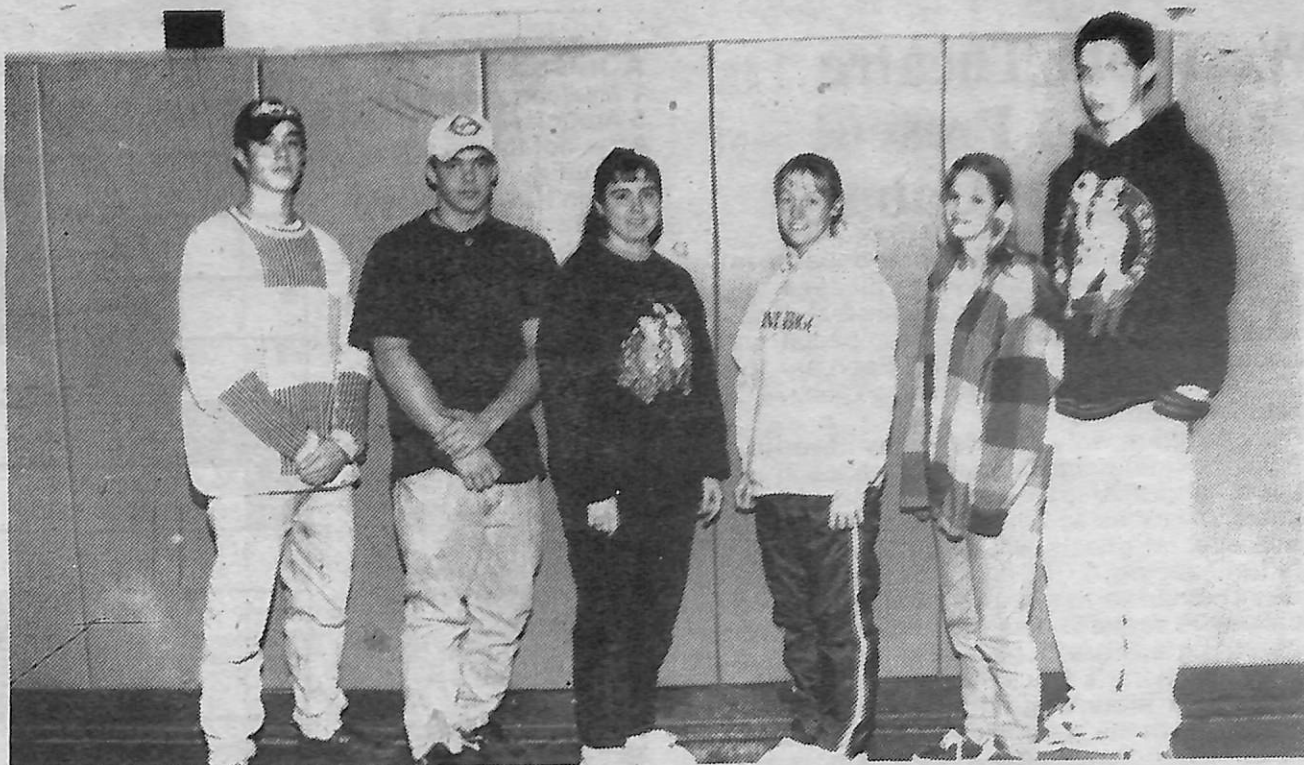
"When I was done, some girl asked to feel my arm," Amanda said. "The kids were cheering me on."

Able to bench press 180 pounds after a few years of lifting weights, **Eric Preston** found doing pull-ups "pretty easy" and he enjoyed competing against the winner of the 10th grade title.

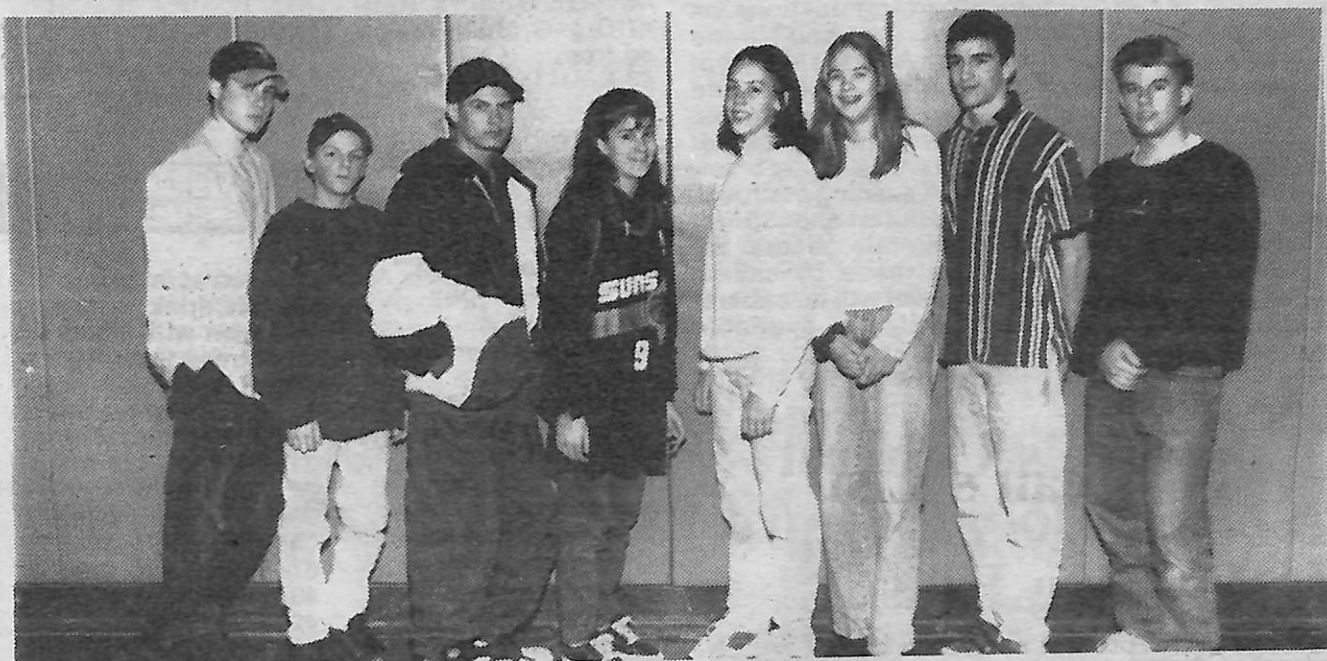
"We're in the same class and I wanted to do better than Alain, just to make him mad," Eric grinned.



LINDSEY HADDEN led the AHS ninth grade girls in sit-ups with 65 while **Kim Pietroniro** led the way with 25 pull-ups. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SOPHOMORE CLASS "Personal Best" award winners at AHS, from left - Jack Biscoe (92 sit-ups), Alain Dion (23 pull-ups), Jessica Hansen (7 pull-ups), Stephanie Fleming (fastest mile), Nicole Vinczo (68 sit-ups), and Joe Heneghan (fastest mile). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



NINTH GRADE "Personal Best" award winners in physical education at AHS, from left - Justin Bushey (70 sit-ups), Ron Ogulewicz (70 sit-ups), Eric Preston (32 pull-ups), Amanda Peters (32 pull-ups), Barbara Maloni (fastest mile), Melissa Cote (fastest mile), David Thomas (fastest mile), and Mike Nascimbeni (sit & reach - 45). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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An Active Year For Cub Scout Pack 85

Pack 85 has many new leaders this year, and has been very active. Each Friday from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., the scouts work towards advancement in rank at the Agawam United Methodist Church. The Pack has also taken several field trips and had many special get-togethers, including a Pancake Breakfast that was lots of fun.

A field trip to the Bradley Air National Guard Base in Granby, CT each year gives the boys the opportunity to view and board U.S. war planes and sit in a flight simulator. Those attending the field trip also have the opportunity to view the Air Traffic Control Tower at Bradley International Airport, as well as the Radar Room and Weather Station.

The boys and their parents are allowed to speak with Air Traffic Controllers, as well as other airport personnel, while they watch planes being directed to land, take off, and receive directions for passing through on the radar scope. They are also given a short course in drug prevention education. They are given an overview of career opportunities in a number of aviation fields.

In October, the Pack had a fun-filled Halloween Party, as well as a trip to Rails To The Dark Side at the East Windsor Trolley Museum, where they had a frightening good time!

The 1995 season ended with a Christmas Party on December 22nd and a sledding party during Christmas vacation, complete with a trip to Friendly's for ice cream.

More exciting events are being planned for the 1996 season, including a visit to the Hood Ice Cream Plant in Suffield, CT; Pinewood Derby car races in March; a visit by our Mayor, Christopher Johnson; a late spring cookout; nature and exploration hikes; and lots of work on new badges for everyone.

The Webelos will be camping with area Boy Scout Troops this spring, and joining them for troop meetings. The Webelos and Bears will camp out this June at Webelos Woods, where they get to try a lot of new and different activities.

The Tigers are finishing the year with big plans for next year, starting as Bobcats and ending up as Wolves.

Local Students Named To Dean's List At Bryant College

The following local students were among those who were named to the fall semester Dean's List at Bryant College:

Kimberly J. Hayes, a sophomore Accounting-General major, of 18B Castle Hill Road, Agawam.

Joshua D. Tudryn, a junior Accounting-Financial major, of 119 North Street, Agawam.

Vincent L. Petrangelo, a junior Finance major, of 1639 Suffield Street, Agawam.

David W. Zielinski, a junior Finance major, of 476 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

Bryant College, located 12 miles outside of Providence in Smithfield, Rhode Island, is recognized as one of the leading business colleges in the country by *U.S. News & World Report* and *Barron's*. Bryant enrolls more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students annually.

In addition, more than 10,000 business people representing 1,800 firms annually take advantage of Bryant's continuing education programs and corporate outreach efforts through the College's Center for International Business and Economic Development (CIBED).

To subscribe, please give us a call at 786-7747 or 786-8137. We open at 6:30 a.m.

DARE Awards Handed-Out At Middle School



RECEIVING THE PROJECT DARE awards at the Agawam Middle School included, from left - DARE Officer Donald Gallerani; students Christopher Martin, Jenine Davignon, Nina Murray, and Brian Sojkowski; and Police Chief Robert Campbell. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



IN PHOTO LEFT, AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT Kelly Curry receives her Project DARE certificate from her father, Police Officer Richard Curry while Officer Richard Riccio presents Jocelynn Kraus with her award; IN PHOTO RIGHT, Police Chief Robert Campbell presents Brittany Theriaque with her certificate. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Travis W. Chaput Is Named To Dean's List At Westfield State

Travis W. Chaput, son of David A. and Lois S. Chaput, has been named to the Dean's List for the 1995 fall semester at Westfield State College.

Travis, a senior, is a History major. He is a 1988 graduate of Agawam High School, and recently received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps.

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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 12th: Steamed frankfort in roll, mustard, relish, catsup, oven French fries, Boston baked beans, chilled salad, pears in syrup, milk.

Tuesday, February 13th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, seasoned peas & carrots, wheat bread & butter, cranberry sauce, cherry jello with topping or peaches in syrup, milk.

Wednesday, February 14th: Valentine's Day—meatballs with tomato sauce, macaroni, seasoned broccoli cut, bread & butter, valentine cake or fruit cup, milk.

Thursday, February 15th: Hamburg in roll, slice of cheese, steamed parsley rice, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and Italian dressing, fresh Washington apple, milk.

Friday, February 16th: Barbecue rib dippers, seasoned niblet corn, oven potato wedges, wheat bread & butter, chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

* **REMINDER:** Elementary lunch is \$1/per day or \$5/per week.

(NOTE: Please remember to purchase your tickets on Mondays for the week. Personal checks are accepted, payable to: The Agawam School Lunch.)

Agawam High's Wayne Morse Obtaining Social Studies Grants

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Since taking on his new responsibilities as the academic coordinator for social studies at Agawam's secondary schools, Wayne Morse is batting 1000 when it comes to getting state funding home safe.

In his first experience with grant writing, Morse was awarded nearly \$8,000 in funding from the state Department of Education.

The funds will be used to train teachers and purchase materials toward the development of the Advanced Placement European History Program.

"We'll be able to get better sources for the students and teachers," Morse said. "This year, the kids had to buy their own textbooks for \$15."

Acting AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski said the grant money was offered by the state to support new course offerings or courses being offered for the first time.

"This is the first time we've had enough kids sign up for AP European History to run the class," Zabielski said. "One of the problems in getting students to sign up is that too many people see AP courses as something for seniors. But it doesn't have to be that way. I've had many juniors and sophomores do well in AP classes."

Morse said the funding will help enable the school to offer students the chance to earn college credit while still in high school.

"With the state moving toward heterogeneous grouping, we also like to have an option for kids who want to accelerate their program," Morse said.

Students in AP courses have the opportunity to take an Advanced Placement test to earn college credit for their work.

Zabielski said some students have earned up to

a full semester of college credit by taking AP courses at AHS.

Much More Could Be Done

Even though they are elated at receiving the grant, school administrators say much more could be done if the school system employed a full-time grant writer who was skilled in the art of searching out and applying for the highly-competitive grants offered by the state and federal governments.

Dean of Students Bernadette Conte said success in grant writing requires a substantial investment of time in searching out funding sources, researching the criteria for eligibility, and finally developing a proposal that exactly meets the grant requirements.

"If your grant application includes something not covered, they'll just toss it out," Mrs. Conte said. "They'll figure you didn't bother to read the grant. It has to be perfect."

With students facing mandatory state assessment testing in 1998 in grades four, eight, and 10 teachers do not have the time to devote to grant writing," Mrs. Conte said.

"We have to make sure our kids do well on the standardized tests," Mrs. Conte said. "Our teachers are supposed to be teaching. They shouldn't be asked to take the place of a grant writer."

Included in the grant is funding for software and a computer cart for the Social Studies Department. The department's 10 teachers will share the computer cart with 1,000 students in 45 classes.

"It's a step in the right direction," Morse said.

Assisting Morse in writing the grant were Ann Favreau, Gail Dion, and Mrs. Conte.

Please remember that classified ads are \$10 for 30 words or less, 10 cents for each additional word.



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The School Committee is seeking input from parents and residents as to what attributes are important in the next Superintendent of Schools. Please take a few moments to complete the following questionnaire and return it to the Mayor's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 no later than February 23, 1996. Thank you for your cooperation.

Agawam Public Schools Superintendent Search Parent/Resident Priority Ratings Questionnaire

Please assign a priority rating to each of the following (1 - low priority and 10 - high priority):

I. Education

- Applicant possesses a Master's Degree in Education or related field _____
- Applicant possesses a Master's Degree in Education or related field plus 15 _____
- Applicant possesses a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Education or related field _____
- Applicant possesses a Doctorate in Education or related field _____

II. Experience

Application has prior experience in a comparable school district as:

Superintendent of Schools _____

Assistant/Associate Superintendent of Schools _____

Principal at:

Secondary level (Junior & Senior High School) _____

Middle school level _____

Elementary school level _____

Assistant Principal at:

Secondary level (Junior & Senior High School) _____

Middle school level _____

Elementary school level _____

Teacher _____

III. Demonstrated Knowledge

- Applicant has knowledge of sound management practices _____
- Applicant has knowledge of sound fiscal and budgetary practices _____
- Applicant has knowledge of curriculum content and development _____
- Applicant has knowledge of Massachusetts School Law _____
- (including education reform, school finance and building assistance) _____
- Applicant has knowledge of Massachusetts and Federal legislative process _____
- Applicant has knowledge of grant writing and application process _____
- Applicant has knowledge of educational technology (e.g. computers, internet, etc.) _____

IV. Demonstrated Abilities and Skills

- Applicant has ability to work cooperatively with the School Committee _____
- Applicant has ability to provide educational and academic leadership _____
- Applicant has ability to effectively delegate authority _____
- Applicant has ability to interpret, review and draft school committee policy _____
- Applicant has ability to develop and administer a professional development program for administrators and staff _____
- Applicant has ability to select and evaluate administrators and staff _____
- Applicant has effective oral communication skills _____
- Applicant has effective written communication skills _____

V. Other

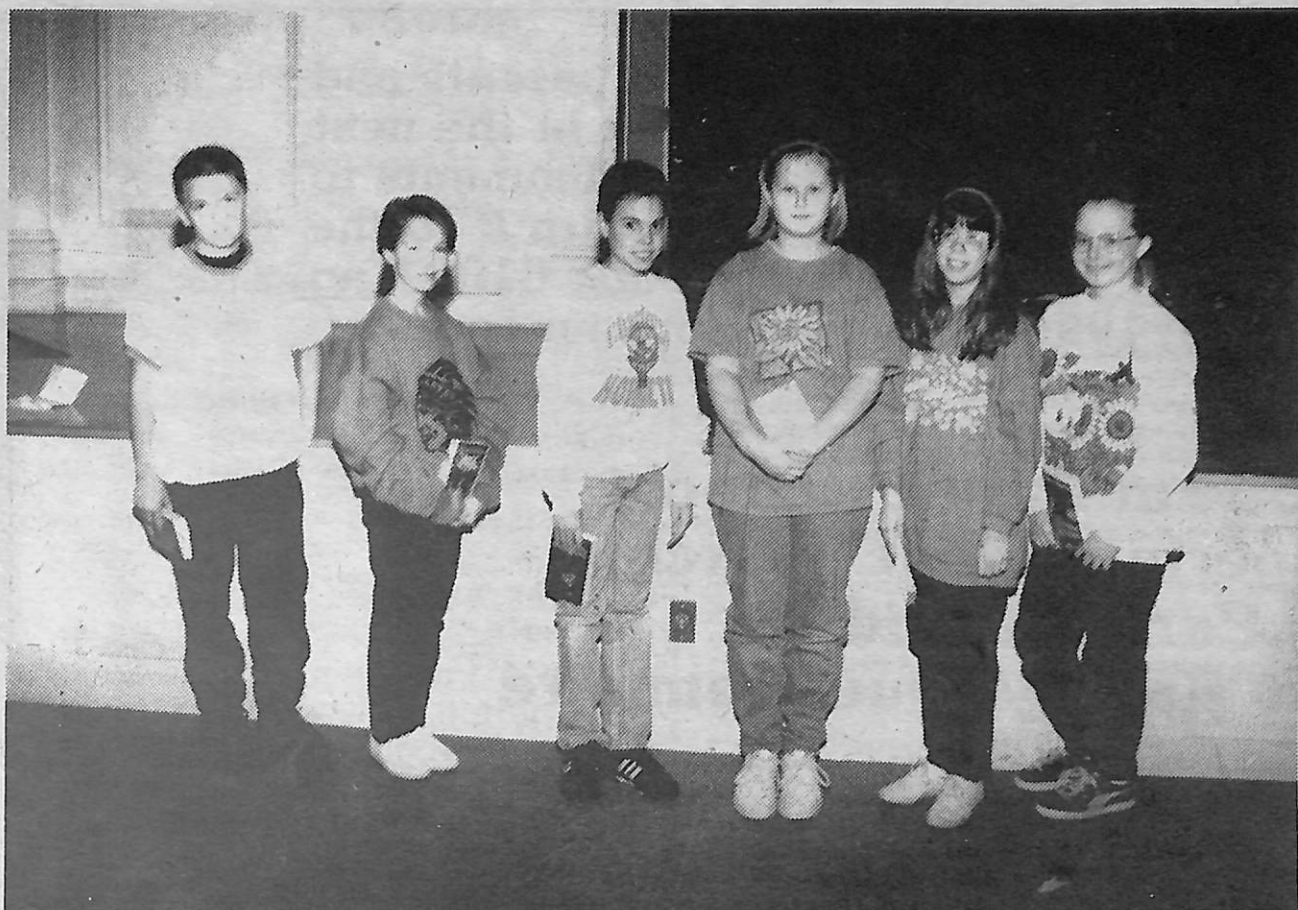
- Applicant is active in community and civic organizations _____
- Applicant has a demonstrated commitment to their professional development _____

VI. Please list any other items which you feel are important in selecting the next Superintendent of Schools:

Name: _____ Signature: _____

**Completed forms must be submitted to the Mayor's Office
no later than February 23, 1996.**

Printed As A Public Service By The Agawam Advertiser News



TOP FIFTH GRADE ACCELERATED READERS at the Middle School, from left - Andrew Wynne, Jenine Davignon, Mark Marra, Anna Kiforishina, Ashley Blanchard, and Nina Murray. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



TOP SIXTH GRADE Accelerated Readers at the Middle School, from left - Michael Follis, April Ronaleau, Elizabeth Gottardi, Kara Dominick, Nathan Skiba, Brian Moore, and Nicole Conte. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Accelerated Readers Earn Awards & Attend A Special Assembly

The Agawam Middle School Accelerated Reader Program awards winners recently attended an assembly with a program by Paul Kaplan called "Songs On The Sea." Students attending reached their goal of Accelerated Reader points for the first half of the school year.

This very successful reader program, coordinated by Mrs. Evelyn Lester (Project SEE teacher) and the librarian, Mrs. Sylvia Deliso, has been in use for five years. The Accelerated Reader Program has been shown to improve reading and comprehension skills, builds higher-order thinking skills, motivates students to read more and better books, and fosters a lifelong love of reading.

One of the important things about the program is that students of all reading levels can excel in the program. Students look forward to participating in the program to read books by familiar authors and also enjoy being exposed to new subjects and authors.

The program presents books (both fiction and non-fiction) which are graded as to reading level and point value. Computer tests on the content of the book are taken in the library.

Fifth grade students have a goal of 10 or more points on books with a 4.0 reading level, and the sixth grade students' goal is 15 or more points on books with a 5.0 reading level or above.

Students who qualified to attend the program were awarded certificates, pencils, books, and t-shirts according to the number of points achieved.

The two 100-point winners were **Michael Follis**, grade six, with 6,106 points, and **Andrew Wynne**, grade five, with 5,132 points. Both were awarded t-shirts.

The Accelerated Reader Program is supported by the Agawam Middle School PTO.

Michael C. Butt Receives Degree From Boston University

Boston University awarded academic degrees to 1,060 students this winter.

Among the graduates was Agawam resident **Michael C. Butt**, who received a MS in Manufacturing Engineering.

Boston University is the third largest independent university in the United States, with an enrollment of more than 29,000 students in its 15 schools and colleges.

Located in the heart of a city rich in cultural, historical, and intellectual attractions, the University is one of the nation's preeminent teaching and research institutions.

Please remember to publicize your events at least two weeks in advance.

THE X-CLUB BY JOHN CONANT



Agawam Cultural Council Has NYC Trip

The Agawam Cultural Council will have a New York City bus trip on Saturday, May 18, 1996. Anyone interested in tickets may send a check and stamped, self-addressed envelope to council member Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal, 760 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Please make checks payable to the Agawam Cultural Council. The tickets will be returned in your stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please look at the front of the ticket for bus number assignment. The price per person is \$18 and is non-refundable. Departure time will be at 6:25 a.m. from the Agawam High School parking lot. This will allow sufficient time for interested parties to

purchase half-price tickets to selected Broadway Shows.

The bus will stop at the Metropolitan Museum of Fine Arts, Rockefeller Center, Times Square (theater ticket booths), 34th Street Macy's, and the 14th Street South Street Seaport.

Time and place of departure from New York will be 6:30 p.m. near Rockefeller Center. There will be no stops on the trip down or back; bring your own snacks. Arrival home at Agawam High School will be approximately 9:30 p.m.

If there are any questions, please call Linda Lazarus at 786-2335.

Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.



AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen
Acting Director
AHS Guidance Dept.

One Day In The Life Of A Guidance Counselor

Many times people wonder, "Just what do you do?" After all, teachers have a subject to teach and students with whom they meet every day. Counselors, on the other hand, have no set schedule.

I realize that it's hard for you as parents to come and shadow us for a day, so I decided to bring our typical day to you so you could see what counselors do at the high school. In future columns, it is my hope to give you an inside look at the activities of the counselors at the Junior High and Middle School.

The following is a composite of typical happenings in a counselor's day. While you read this, imagine the phone ringing and other interruptions occurring:

7:15 a.m.: Most of the counselors have arrived on the scene. Notes are in the pockets which are affixed to their doors and/or on their desks. A student enters to tell me that he has been accepted at college. Another comes to leave some applications for me to complete which must get into the mail as soon as possible.

7:30 a.m.: A teacher stops by to inquire about a student with whom she's having some difficulty. It is decided that a parent will be called and a meeting will be set up with the parent, student, teacher, and me to discuss the problem and come up with a possible solution.

7:40 a.m.: I reach the parent on the phone, chat for a while, and set up a meeting.

7:45 a.m.: I issue passes for three students who have study halls during this period.

7:45 to 8:05 a.m.: The students come in at staggered times. One is not doing well in a subject and we try to work together to find a feasible plan that will help the student succeed. Another student has been in trouble with a peer. Mediation is decided upon and the other involved student will be called in. A third has had some home problems and I decided to follow up and see how things are going.

8:15 a.m.: One of my secretaries informs me that a new student has arrived with her parent. Forms are handed out, the family comes into my office, and together we fill out forms, look over past records, and try to find classes that are not only available but also will be a continuation of what the student has been previously learning. Once the schedule has been determined, it must be put into the computer, an ID number must be obtained, the student must visit the nurse to make

sure all health forms are in order, and then go to the office to get a locker and find out what bus he/she has to take. Once back in my office, I give a copy of the schedule to the student and get one of our guidance aides to take the student on a tour of the school and eventually to his/her class. This whole process usually takes about 45 minutes.

9:00 a.m.: A girl is seated in the outside office who is crying and wishes to see me pronto. Ushering the girl into my office, I sit down with her, calm her down, and listen to her story. It seems she has had a run-in with her boyfriend and is very upset or perhaps she has received a poor grade and has studied very hard and now feels like she has failed. Regardless, the situation must be dealt with, the child's feelings assuaged, and then the student must be issued a pass so she can return to class. Sometimes, a parent must be called after this to be informed of the situation and a meeting must be set up.

9:30 a.m.: A meeting is held with special services about a youngster who has been evaluated. Parents, teachers who are available, a special education representative, school psychologist, and other pertinent members of the team are present to listen, share, care, advise, and formulate a plan to provide the best possible services to the youngster.

10:15 a.m.: Passes are issued for more students who have studies during this time. Again, the problems vary from college plans, to family issues, to classroom happenings. Each is handled in a way unique to the presenting problem.

10:50 a.m.: Fifth period has begun and all counselors report to their individual duties. If a parent calls on the phone, he/she must be informed that a return call will be made since the duties must be attended to on time. Students are told that passes will be issued to them as soon as possible because each counselor must get to his assigned task. During this period, lunch is eaten, too.

12:15 p.m.: A parent calls with a question. One of the administrators must be sought out for an appropriate answer. The new student returns to seek out the counselor since one of the classes that appeared to have room on the print-out was in fact full and a new class must be scheduled.

12:30 p.m.: A college application is reviewed and time must be taken to write a careful recommendation for the student. Grades, etc. are reviewed in order to come up with an appropriate statement about the student. Questions on the application are answered and the recommendation is handed to the secretary who has to type it out since there is no word processor in the counselor's office.

1:00 p.m.: A parent calls to question a student's attendance. The computer is accessed, the information is obtained, and the parent receives the requested response. A conversation ensues since the parent was surprised at some of the tardies. During this time, two students who have been issued passes, wait outside my office while I complete my telephone conversation. Then, each one is invited in separately.

1:30 p.m.: An administrator sees me about a youngster and would like me to call a parent.

1:45 p.m.: The bell has sounded signalling the end of the school day. Several students arrive to ask questions, pick up forms, etc.

1:50 p.m.: Three teachers and a parent come into my office for a previously scheduled meeting.

2:20 p.m.: I clean up my desk, leave some notes on my calendar to remind me of tomorrow's happenings, and I get ready to leave for the day. On the way out, several teachers stop to talk to me about some pressing matters.

2:30 p.m.: As I drive home, I wonder where the time has gone and review in my mind some of the day's happenings.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!

Tim Conklin, WNEC: Jason DeGray, University of Hartford, UMASS; Alison Reseigne, Framingham State, WNEC, Keene State; Catherine Reynolds, St. Joseph's College; T.J. Gontczaruk, College of St. Rose, WNEC, Ithaca; Danielle LaBarre, Peru State, Univ. of New Hampshire; Dave Mason, Univ. of Hartford; Corrie Antaya, Northeastern; Erica Pratt, Plymouth State; Christian DeBonville, Univ. of New Hampshire, Marist; Lisa Cassanelli, Univ. of Pittsburgh, UMASS; Tom Gage, UMASS, Univ. of Hartford; David Murphy, Westfield State; Sabrina Ferrari, Westfield State; Eric Johnson, Sacred Heart; Dan Watson, WNEC; Adam David, Westfield State; Stephen Bennett, Northeastern; Dan Houle, Pace.

SENIORS - Please notify your counselor when you receive a college acceptance.

SCHOLARSHIPS - See your counselor for more information.

Springfield Garden Club Scholarship - One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a student who plans to major in an environmental studies program. Environmental studies includes a major in any of the following: horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, botany, agronomy, plant pathology, environmental control, city planning, land management, and allied subjects. Applicants must demonstrate financial need and have a scholarship rating of not less than a B. **Deadline: April 1, 1996.**

Big Y Scholarships - Over 50 awards are given. These awards recognize academic merit and achievement and are available to both Big Y employees and customers. **Deadline: March 1, 1996.**

Skirball Essay Contest - Students in grades 10-12 are eligible to participate in this essay contest. This year's subject is, "What does U.S. History teach us about the role of immigration in the creation of American society?" **Deadline: March 15, 1996.**

Katherine Gibbs School Scholarship - Open to students who plan to enroll at Katherine Gibbs in September 1996. **Deadline: March 15, 1996.**

Massachusetts Horticultural Congress Scholarship - Open to Massachusetts residents who plan to study horticulture in college. **Deadline: April 15, 1996.**

Richy's Tree Service

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TROOP 542 out of Granger School is pictured at the Trolley Museum in East Windsor, Connecticut during the Christmas season; IN PHOTO RIGHT, Daisy Troop 581 is pictured at a recent activity.



GIRL SCOUTS

THE GIRL SCOUTS

AS GREAT AS YOU WANT TO MAKE IT

Granger Brownie Troop 542 had a busy month in November. We learned and rehearsed the "Girl Scout Ways" in preparation for our Investiture on November 27th. We were as proud of the girls as they were of themselves.

We will continue to use the flag ceremony and Brownie Ring in our meetings so each girl will have a chance to "Present" the flag. All the girls look forward to seeing their name on the Kaper chart one week.

Our service project for December was to count and wrap 2,500 sports cards in packages of 25 to be donated as gifts. We made "Elf Hats" to wear. The girls had a great time and did a super job!

On December 10th, we braved the cold and had a super time at the Trolley Museum in Windsor, Connecticut. We even took a ride on the open Trolley—BRRR! After the "Tunnel Of Lights," we were treated to a "Light Show" inside one of the buildings, complete with Christmas music, hot cocoa, cookies, and Santa.

We had our Christmas party on December 18th. We made Christmas cards, crafts, and enjoyed many goodies. The girls also received their "Girl Scout Ways" Try-It and their council patches for their sashes.

Our cookie sales kick-off meeting will be held in January. Our cookie mom will be giving a short presentation to the girls along with some cookie samples to enjoy.



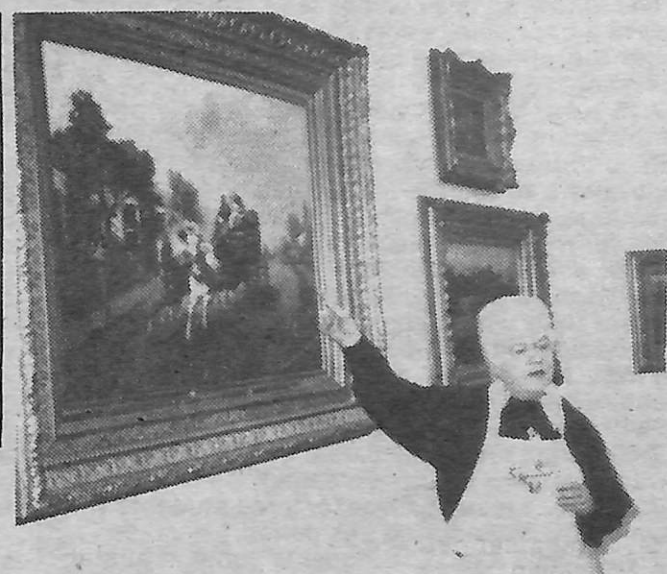
GRANGER DAISY TROOP 554 in a dress-up/role play during the Shapes Program at the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum.

Look around you and what do you see, but circles, squares, rectangles, triangles, and undefined shapes! Granger Daisy Girl Scout Troop 554 attended the Shapes Program offered at the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum on December 27th.

The guided tour included: a visit to the Classical Cast gallery to view three-dimensional art works; a dress-up/role play at the Arms and Armor gallery; a treasure hunt at the Japanese

Decorative Arts and Chinese galleries; a rug making activity at the Oriental Rug gallery; and finally, a "tiny" journey into painting and the making of the origami cup at the American Painting Gallery.

Not only was the program interesting and educational, but the girls had a great time, too!



DOROTHY, a tour guide at the George Walter Vincent Art Museum, takes the Granger Daisy Troop 554 on a "tiny" journey into a painting.

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Sports

Brownie Wrestlers Head Into WMass At Top Seed

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High wrestling team got a final tuneup last Wednesday evening (January 31st) before heading into this Saturday's Western Mass Tournament. The opponent—or perhaps we should say victim—were the Hurricanes of Amherst High School. The Brownies won it, 55-12.

Agawam finished its regular season, 11-0. That record is good enough for the top seed in the tournament as they drive for their 10th straight Western Mass crown.

The score notwithstanding, this meet had some drama attached to it. That drama came in the 112-pound class. Agawam's Kevin McKay, who usually wrestles at 103 pounds, was going for the top seed in that class for the upcoming tournament. Kevin wrestled up in weight to get it. His opponent was Amherst junior Jerry Mainville. "He beat me last year. I wanted to wrestle him for the top seed in the 103's," Kevin said.

Then the feisty sophomore added, "If I hadn't challenged him, or he beat me, he'd get the top seed." It was a gamble for Kevin. Mainville was bigger than him. But pound for pound, no one is tougher than McKay.

The first period saw both wrestlers in a defensive mode. They probed each other, looking for weaknesses. The only two points in the period came on a McKay takedown.

They were still on defense in the second period. Kevin, smaller but quicker than Mainville, shot for a takedown. He got two more points. The period ended, 4-0 McKay.

Mainville tried some shooting of his own in the third. Kevin had little trouble avoiding that particular tactic. Then, with 40 seconds left, the Brownie managed to get his opponent in a near fall position which was good for two more points. It ended with McKay winning, 6-0 to insure the top spot in his weight class.

It was pretty much an Agawam cakewalk throughout every weight class in this meet. The Hurricanes, badly undermanned, were overwhelmed. Mike Pessolano pinned his opponent with 16.1 seconds left in the second period of the 119's.

Chris Chechile, who is the Western Mass Tournament top seed in the 125's, looked tournament tough as he pinned Yuchao Wu with 1:30 gone in his weight division.

SEE WRESTLING - Page 36...

AHS Girls Defeat Lancers For 11th Straight & League Lead

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

You can play tomato cans and cream puffs. Sometimes, you might even play teams better than you. But in any sport, at any time, it comes time for a gut check (just ask UMass). It is a time when you have to go up against someone else who wants to be tall in the saddle.

That's the way it was supposed to be Monday night when the Agawam High girls' basketball team traveled to Longmeadow to play the Lancers.

If you listen to the scribes, Longmeadow is supposed to be big and bad. They were the contenders for Agawam's Valley Wheel throne. Obviously, some people who write about the Brownies don't know much about this team.

The road to another Valley Wheel crown was supposed to go right through Longmeadow that night. The Brownies came in and laid down some serious rubber on that road, beating the Lancers, 45-34.

Agawam won its 11th game in a row (11-2), and they are 5-0 in the Valley Wheel. Longmeadow comes in at 9-6 and 4-1.

Longmeadow knew it couldn't match up with Agawam. But they have size. Three of their starters were 5'9" or better. So they started out and went with a 1-2-2 zone.

Agawam, of course, went with its "man" defense. But it was the offensive side that warmed the hearts of the Brownie faithful on this cold night. The Brownies basically ran a three-guard set. Kristen Patterson (11 points, including 1-1, 10 rebounds), Barbara Maloni (15 points, including 3-4, 5 rebounds), and Courtne Hyland were asked to pass the ball like there was no tomorrow. They did.

As Hyland would say later, "We were looking for our big people down low." They found Pia Bertone-Gross (10 points, including 2-2, 7 rebounds). She's a zone buster. And when the Lancer defense started to pull in to stop her, the Agawam shooters put it up.

Longmeadow, on offense, was way off stride. The hoop might as well have been somewhere in the Connecticut River. Agawam held them scoreless until the 9:06 mark when Nicole Moseley hit both sides of a free throw. Bertone-Gross came back with a basket seconds later.

Best
local
news

With seven minutes gone, it was 9-2, Agawam.

Longmeadow its first field goal with 8:31 left in the half.

Amber Conte (5 points, 2 rebounds) drilled a three after that, and it was 12-4 Agawam.

Longmeadow, behind Moseley (6 points, 2-2, 4 rebounds), came back. It was 14-12, Agawam with 4:50 left. But the Lancers were tightening up.

Bertone-Gross was controlling the boards. The Agawam guards were setting the pace. And the Brownies put the pedal to the metal with their full-blown, full-court press.

Lancer Coach Mary Murray, one of the best in the business, knew it was only a matter of time now. Her club had no hope of running with the Brownies.

To highlight the half, Maloni hit a three with a second left on the clock. The Brownies went into the locker room leading 20-14.

Agawam went 6-30 (20 percent) from the floor and 5-6 (83 percent) from the line. They committed 10 turnovers. But they pulled down 18 rebounds, thus allowing Longmeadow little more than one shot at the hoop.

The Lancers shot 4-24 (16 percent) and 4-4 at the line. They had only five turnovers. That number is low because the Agawam press came late, and you just don't have many mistakes with a zone and a half-court game. They had 11 boards.

Lancers Came Out Firing In The Second Half...

Longmeadow came out firing in the second half. They got the score down to 20-18 with only seconds gone off the clock. Then Patterson, Maloni, and Hyland stepped up. The could write a textbook on "man" defense. You see, Longmeadow, after a half-time talk from Murray, was taking its final shot. AHS Coach Lou Conte knew the push was coming.

And at 11:42, with the Brownies up, 22-20, it all came down to coaching philosophies. Agawam was going its way ("man" and press). Longmeadow had made its decision (a static zone and a half-court game).

Patterson hit a basket and made the ensuing foul shot at 11:20. It was 27-20, Agawam.

SEE GIRLS' HOOP - Page 36...

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WRESTLING - from Page 35...

Ryan Grealis executed a nice takedown flip in his 130-pound match and pinned Kamil Peters with 27 seconds gone in the first period.

At that point, Agawam led the match, 21-3.

They added to that total in the 135's. Kevin Hill was all over his Hurricane opponent. He'd built up a major decision (15-1 lead with 20 seconds left in the middle period) when he rode his man into a pinfall.

A Good Yet Lopsided Contest...

The 140's saw a good, if lopsided contest. Jason Jean had to go the full six minutes to beat Tim Stone, 9-1. Throughout the match, Jean was going for the pin in a methodical, workmanlike manner. Stone, who was extremely strong, managed more than once to keep from being pinned. Jean just had too much for him in the end, however.

The Brownies' second loss of the match (they'd lost at 103) came in the 145's. Dan Dialessi locked up with Linchung Liang. The action was intense, as both wrestlers worked on pin possibilities. Liang was up 4-2 after one.

Dialessi got his best pin opportunity with 1:30 gone in the second. Liang managed to get out of harm's way. But Dialessi picked up three points for a near fall to grab a 5-4 lead.

That's the way it stood going into the final two minutes. Liang managed a takedown for two points at the 1:40 mark. Then, he kept riding Dialessi until the buzzer. His efforts translated into a 6-5 Amherst victory.

Amherst, enjoying a bit of success now, won in the 152's. The Brownies' Jeff Blews took the 13-7

loss. He was determined. But the Amherst kid, Dorje Romito, was tough and quick. Two quick takedowns by Romito (as the first period wore down) gave him a 9-5 lead.

The Hurricane was all over Blews in the second period, forcing him to wrestle defensively. As a result, the Brownie was down, 11-5 when the period ended.

Blews came out fired up for the third. He knew he had to get a pin or pile up points fast to avoid a loss. Romito knew it, too. He kept his distance for the most part. The tactic worked.

John Hermans got the Brownies back on the winning track in the 160's with a pin at the 1:50 mark of the first period. At that point, Agawam had the meet in hand, with a 37-9 score.

The final match of the night was in the 171-pound class. Usually, Andrew Ingham rules that division. But he's out for the season with a broken back. Rich Skowrya, a junior, was filling in this night.

This was another defensive war. The Hurricane wrestler, Mike Todrin, forced Skowrya to use up a lot of energy by riding him and getting a near pin in the first period, which ended tied at two.

The second period saw more of the same. Skowrya was still on defense. Because of that, he got few scoring opportunities. And Todrin was still putting on the pressure. The score was still two-all after four minutes.

Todrin got only two scoring chances in the third and made the most of both of them. He got one on an escape with 10 seconds gone. He scored two more on a takedown 20 seconds later. The 5-2 score was too much for Skowrya to deal with, as Todrin switched to defense and protected his slim lead until the final buzzer.

The Hurricanes forfeited the 189 and the heavyweight classes.

GIRLS' HOOP - from Page 35...

The Brownies were still in their press at 10:15. Longmeadow came close so many times. But they were just slower. A good man defense will beat a good zone every time.

Sam Ryall (10 points, including 3-4, all in the second half, 2 rebounds) brought the Lancers back, 29-24 at the 9:00 mark.

Then Jamie Thomas (2 points, 2 rebounds), one of the best defenders in Western Mass, hit a two. Maloni, a few seconds later, hit a three to make it 36-28.

Patterson canned a three at the 4:30 mark to

make it 39-28. That was a harpoon.

Agawam went 8-19 (42 percent) and 1-3 from the line. They had only five turnovers and eight rebounds in the second half.

Longmeadow shot 6-11 (54 percent) and 4-5 from the line. They had eight boards and five turnovers.

*Best
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Agawam A.A. Basketball Standings

BOYS' 10-12 AMERICAN DIVISION	W	L
Corner Deli	5	0
Fran's Restaurant	4	1
Briggs & Starr Ins.	2	3
Valenti's Restaurant	2	3
E.B.'s Specialty Chicken	0	5

BOYS' 10-12 NATIONAL DIVISION	W	L
JMC Graphics	5	0
Movie Mart	4	1
Provin Mt. Farms	2	3
Auth Farms	1	4
Agawam Opticians	0	5

BOYS' 13-15	W	L
Westfield Savings	5	0
Provin Mt. Farms	4	1
Agawam Auto Sales	3	2
Fran's Restaurant	1	4
JMC Graphics	1	4
Polish Club	1	4

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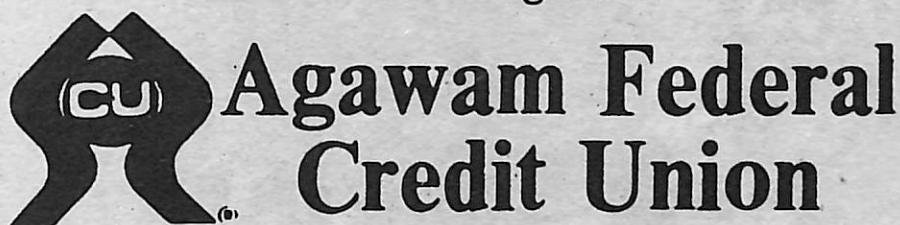
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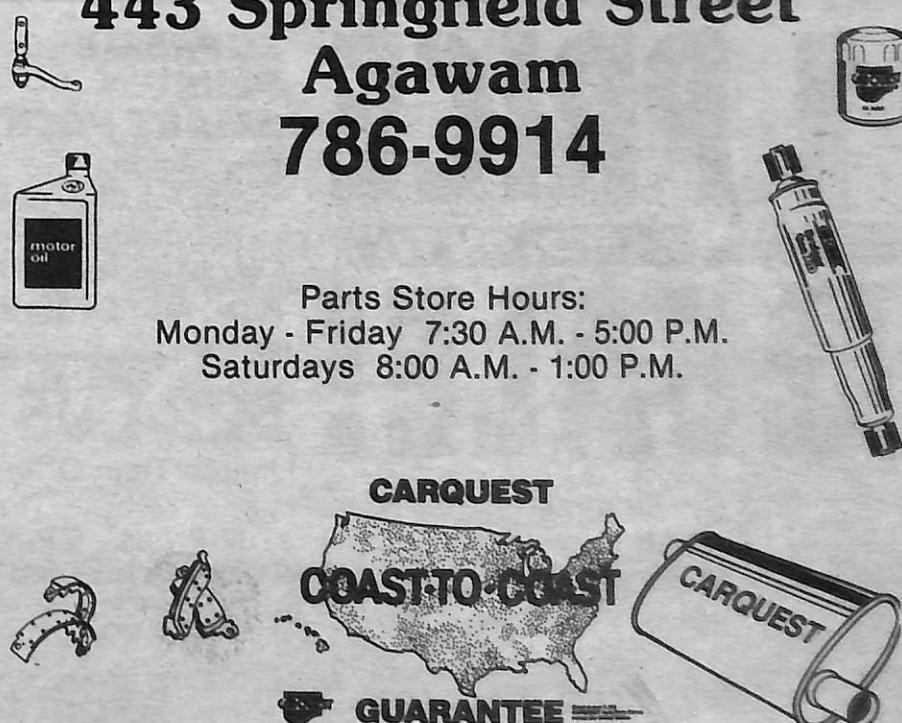
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Brownie Boys Closing On First Ever Title In Div. B Skiing

There is no mistake about it, the Brownie boys' alpine ski team is on its way to its first "B" Division title in Western Massachusetts.

The very young crew that has been compiled throughout the past two to three years would like to make a statement ski racing at AHS can and will be competitive with the best! Once again, Agawam surpassed rival Holyoke by over two seconds in the last giant slalom event on Thursday, February 1st.

The Brownies have 51 points, Holyoke has 47, and Greenfield has 45 points toward the division crown with one regular season event remaining. How well did the Brownies do? All they need to do to win the division is a fifth place in the slalom on February 8th. And slalom has been their strong point this season.

Ben Weld stepped up the intensity this past week with a time of 27.92, placing him once again in the top three of the "B" division. Ryan Progulski chased Ben down the mountain with a fourth place finish with a time of 28.38. Ben and Ryan have been great training partners throughout the season due to the fact that they continue to juggle the top spot on the team between themselves.

Kevin Perreault once again moved into the top seven with his time of 29.10. And captain Andy Markowski rounded out the top 10 of the race with a time of 30.61. Mike Savioli just missed top 10 of the race with a time of 30.90.

"The excitement within the program has been building all season," according to Coach Olson. "I don't know a better group of young athletes that this success could fall upon!"

B.J. Cortis cruised down the slope with a time of 31.16, followed by Steve Charest. Steve passed through the finish with a time of 31.35. Mike Defilipi completed the varsity order and fell victim to a tactical error that caught him fighting the icy conditions at Berkshire East with a time of 43.19.

The junior varsity is again opening the eyes of the other coaches in the league with Ricky Haglund's blistering time of 30.91 on the same course that the varsity previously raced.

Rob Santanello and Daryl St. Laurent negotiated the hill to complete their runs with a time of 34.12 and 35.15, respectively. According to the coach, "These athletes have been working very hard this season and have shown huge improvements."

There is one side note: the time for Daryl last week was incorrect. He had a time of 31.81 for the junior varsity program.

Big Second Period Lifts Lancers Over AHS Hockey, 8-2

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High tried to pick up a win in ice hockey last Saturday evening. It wasn't going to happen. The Longmeadow Lancers beat the Brownies, 8-2.

Agawam started its best line, which consisted of four defensemen—Austin Kimball, Geoff Ciak, Matt Radwanski, and Rich Feeley. Only Andy Radwanski, at forward, was an offensive player. Chris Hern was in the net.

The action was fast and good early on. Ciak was especially interesting. He stopped an early Lancer scoring opportunity and rushed their net repeatedly.

Agawam was playing good defense for most of the period. The Brownies kept the puck in the Lancer zone, courtesy of Steve Gallant, Andy Radwanski, and Greg Jubinville.

Longmeadow had a power play at the 2:49 mark. Keith Daubmann and Ciak helped kill it.

Then, with 53 seconds to play in the period, Longmeadow scored.

The period ended with the Lancers up 1-0. Agawam deserved better.

In the second period, Longmeadow lit the light early. They scored on a shot 20 feet out on the right wing at the 13:34 mark.

The Brownies, like they so often do, were starting to back in on their goalie. They were also unable to get the puck out of their zone.

When they did get it out, things happened. Matt Radwanski, along with Amy Mastroianni and Rich Feeley, led a charge up the ice at the 8:13 mark. Radwanski flipped a backhand by the Lancer keeper to make it 2-1, Longmeadow.

But then the wheels came off the Brownie wagon. The Lancers scored at 8:13 and again a minute later.

Then, with 10:20 left, Longmeadow scored again. It was now 5-1, Lancers.

Longmeadow scored another from 30 feet out on the right point.

At the end of two, Longmeadow led, 6-1.

At the 8:20 mark of the third, Longmeadow got another one. The period switched to running time.

Austin Kimball got a Brownie score a minute later, on assists by Feeley and Tom Case.

But by now, the Lancers were cruising. They got another with 4:14 left.

At this writing, Agawam falls to 2-11-1 overall and 0-5 in the Berry Division. Their total goals scored so far this season (33) underscore what Coach Fran Pycko has said all season—"We can't score."

Agawam had nine shots on the Lancer net. Longmeadow answered with 24.

Games And Lanes Indoor Soccer Leagues (Standings As Of Feb. 4, 1996)

U-12 BOYS	W	L	T	P
Agawam Dynamos	4	0	0	8
North Branch	3	1	1	7
Westfield	2	2	0	4
Agawam/Hearn	0	2	1	1
Hampshire United	0	4	0	0

U-14 BOYS	W	L	T	P
Berzerkers	4	0	0	8
Tube Products	3	1	0	6
Agawam Express	2	1	0	4
Revolution	1	1	1	3
Blue Devils	1	2	1	3
Agawam Intown	0	2	2	2
Agawam Vipers	0	4	0	0

U-12 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Berkshire	3	0	0	6
Agawam	1	2	0	2
Longmeadow	1	2	0	2
Holyoke	1	2	0	2

U-17 BOYS	W	L	T	P
HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION	4	0	0	8
Holyoke S.C. Green	3	1	0	6
Agawam Juniors	2	1	1	5
Agawam Intown	1	2	1	3
Holyoke S.C. Gray	1	3	0	2
Milne El Fuego	0	4	0	0
Westfield Bombers	0	4	0	0

Dal Molin Scholarship Comm. Is Planning Falcons Night Fundraiser For Feb. 16th

The Thomas Dal Molin Scholarship Committee is hard at work planning another fun-filled fundraiser. The event will be a Falcon Hockey Night and will be held on February 16, 1996. The Falcons will be playing the Cape Breton Oilers at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available for \$8 by calling Mary Lou at 786-1959 or Kip Reginer at 786-9773. Teddy Bear Hockey Team will be playing the Ale House Team at 5:30 p.m.

This has always proven to be a funny as well as a fun game for the guys. They can use all the support they can get.

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Brownie Girls Have No Problem At All With Colts, 63-37

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' basketball team beat visiting Chicopee last Friday night, 63-37. It was their ninth straight win of the season to that point. And all 11 members of their roster played and played well. They all managed at least a basket. And they also demonstrated another facet of this year's edition of the Brownie girls' basketball—depth.

They have it up and down the bench. As a matter-of-fact, Coach Lou Conte didn't even start two of his regular, freshmen Barbara Maloni and Pia Bertone-Gross.

The Brownies came out shooting against a Chicopee 2-1-2 zone. The Brownies, as usual, were in a smothering man defense and were running off the outlet pass at every opportunity. It was obvious from the get-go that Agawam was going to wear the Pacers down with their transition game.

The Brownies were passing nicely over and around the Chicopee zone in order to get the open shot. But they were off the mark early and found themselves down 8-4 at the 12:34 mark.

Then, with four minutes gone, Conte sent Maloni and Bertone-Gross into the fray. A minute later, the Brownies, obviously buoyed by their presence, took a 9-8 lead and never looked back.

Once again, Agawam was doing one of the things it does best—getting to opponents' passes on defense (before the opponents could get to them). The result was 16 Pacer turnovers in the first half, which led either to Agawam lay-ups or a disruption of the Chicopee offensive flow.

With 5:30 to play in the first, Sarah Cote (8 points, including 4-4 from the line, 12 rebounds) hit several foul shots. That made the score 22-10, Agawam.

The Agawam press, as it has done to so many other teams, was giving the Pacers fits. So Chicopee tried a press of its own. It didn't work. The Brownies are too good at handling the ball to be intimidated by such as tactic.

And they were getting great performances from the bench. Amber Conte (6 points, including 1-2 from the line, three rebounds), Lisa Reveruzzi (2 points, 0-2, three rebounds), Melissa Cote (4 points, two rebounds), and Jennie Vangys (2 points, three rebounds) played the kind of offensive and defensive hoops—based on speed, anticipation, and preparation—that have made the Brownies one of the best teams in Western Mass over the years.

It all added up to a 38-18 Agawam lead at the half.

The Brownies went 13-33 (39 percent) from the field in half one. They drained 10-13 (76 percent)

AHS Freshman Girls' Basketball Team



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL freshman girls' basketball team. Back row - Darla Haffke, Heather Hughes, Gwen Gonyea, Jess Dutton, Franca Bonavita, Niki Rashamwala, Jamie Pavelsek, and Coach Lynda Kunasek. Front row - Lindsay Mason, Jess Montagna, Cassie Andre, and Heather Jensen. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

from the line. Every Brownie was involved in the defense, which led to the 16 Pacer turnovers. Agawam dominated the boards, ripping down 17 rebounds. Jamie Thomas (6 points, including 2-2, 6 rebounds) led the way. Agawam had only eight turnovers.

The Pacers just couldn't match up. They hit 9-24 (37 percent) from the floor. Besides the turnover ratio, they could manage only 10 rebounds.

The Brownies Were Just Too Quick...

Agawam was just too quick over the Pacer zone. Chicopee was also standing around on offense (when it should have been working for an open shot opportunity).

The second half was more of the same - a combination of the starters and the backups playing perfectly in synch.

Kristen Patterson (13 points, including 4-8 from the line, 6 rebounds) got four of those rebounds in the second half to seal up the Pacers. She also had 14 assists. That performance prompted Conte to remark, "She is the heart and soul of our team."

Bertone-Gross, who in some ways is the high

school basketball reincarnation of 1995 power frontliner Kristen Schmaelzle, is the ultimate center. She has a sense of how to post up. Her turnaround (fall away) jumper down low is a mixture of silk and honey. It is that smooth.

Senior Courtne Hyland, another team leader, had nine points on three treys. When the Pacers thought they were going to catch up, she put their dreams to rest with those downtown bombs.

Patterson had 13 points in the game. Bertone-Gross had eight. Maloni, the league's leading scorer, had six. They are (respectively) a sophomore, a freshman, and a freshman. What a great nucleus for the years to come.

This is how it ended. The Brownies hit 41 percent from the field (10-24). They went 1-6 (16 percent) from the line. They had 20 boards. They had only eight more turnovers.

Chicopee shot a poor 8-28 (28 percent) from the field and 2-2 from the stripe. They could manage only nine rebounds. Their nine second-half turnovers seemed uneventful. But if you don't have the ball, it means little.

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Tri-Parish Bowlers Going To The Wire In Second Round

The second round of the Tri-Parish Bowling League, held every Monday night at the Agawam Bowl, continues to be a dog fight as St. Anselm (23 wins), Boston College (22 wins), and Catholic University (21 wins) are all battling for the round championship.

CU met St. Anselm in the feature match of the night and came away with a strong showing. CU had three winners - MARY THOMAS (281, 98.34 in Women's A), third roller TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (326-315 over YVONNE CHARTIER; "Not Tony" is at 102.40 in Men's AA), and anchorman BILL "Boy" GRIFFIN, a shocking 376-341 conqueror of none other than "Luscious" LOU MULDER.

Billy "Boy" is fourth in Men's AA at 100.19 while "Luscious" Lou is second in the league overall at 110.12. The only St. A's winner was leadoff roller LOU NAPOLITAN (268, 84.10 in Men's C).

Seventh place St. Michael (13 wins) gave second place Boston College all it could handle. St. Mike's had four winners - leadoff MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (283, 92.8 in Women's A), JEAN BUONICONTI (274, 93.29 in Women's AA), VI MASSOIA (300, 93.6 in Women's A), and anchorman JERRY ALLEN (356, 107.2 in Unclassified). Allen defeated BC Captain "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (329, 103.27 in Men's AA). "Jungle" Jim and his troops let a great opportunity to overtake St. A's slip through their fingers.

In the next match, fifth place Notre Dame (17 wins) faced eighth place Fordham (10 wins). This match saw two winners on each side. For ND, they were leadoff PEARL PROVOST (245, 77.1 in Women's C) and third roller DON "Don't Sit On" STITT (301, 99.46 in Men's A); for Fordham, the winners were CORI NAPOLITAN (310, 96.18 in Women's A) and Captain "Jollie" OLLIE MULDER (332, league leader at 111.5).

"Jollie" defeated top women's roller FLO ROCHFORD (304, 107.30 in Women's AA).

In the final team match, fourth place St. Louis (19 wins) faced sixth place St. Mary's (13½ wins). St. Lou ruled in this one. Winners were leadoff AUDREY PHILLIPS (285, 85.8 in Women's C), KIM LACROIX (304, 92.43 in Women's B), and Captain GLEN ADAMS, a big 362-300 winner over St. Mary's Captain JOHN LONGRINI. Adams is the leader in Men's AA at a strong 107.8 while Longrini is at 98.32 in the same class.

The bye team this week was Holy Cross and despite being in last place (9½ wins), HC had a good night. The scores were as follows: MARSHA DOBIE (271), JOHN MLINEK (280), SUE GRIFFIN (321), and DEB POIRIER (351).

Sportsmen's Corner

—By Bill Chiba—

1003 No. Westfield St.
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Bay State's Top Anglers Have Been Honored

The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife honored the winners of the annual Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program for 1995 on Saturday, February 3rd, at the Eastern Fishing and Outdoor Exposition at the Worcester Centrum.

The angler who submits the heaviest fish of each species at the end of the year is honored at the annual ceremony at the Centrum, where DFW Director Wayne McCallum presents him or her with the coveted "Gold" pin and a handsome engraved plaque before a somewhat envious crowd of onlookers.

To further commemorate the event, the Division's photographer, Bill Byrne, was again on hand to photograph each presentation so that each angler received a photo of the event as well.

Chaplin Scholarship Seeks Applicants

The \$200 scholarship is awarded annually to a high school senior seeking to pursue a career in the field of wildlife conservation. This includes studies in wildlife or fisheries management, fish or wildlife biology, and fish or wildlife ecology or communications.

Applicants must be residents of Massachusetts but do not have to attend college in Massachusetts. Interviews may be required, and proof of acceptance into a college program is mandatory.

Any graduating senior wishing to be considered for the scholarship may obtain an application by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: **Chaplin Scholarship, c/o Stephen Johnson, P.O. Box 108, Upton, MA 01568.**

Applications must be submitted before April 15th. The presentation of the winner will be made at the annual banquet of the Gun Owners' Action League to be held on May 11th at Lantana's in Randolph.

Get Ready For Springfield Sportsmen's Show!

The Springfield Sportsmen's Show, Outdoors Northeast, which will take place February 22nd-25th, has so much to offer fishermen, hunters, and outdoors people that it might be impossible to see it all in one day.

The OSEG-sponsored show will take place at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield,

and will be the first show to have three different and live fish tanks and pools.

Bass Tubs, sponsored by Copenhagen Skoal Outdoors, is larger than the average ranch house and "its residents will be the 'hugest hawks' (bass) this side of hawg heaven."

"The Gorgeous Gorge of Game Fish" is home to all the game fish of the northeast, according to Bill Jacobus of Lake Champlain International.

Bass pro Leroy Bailey will offer a casting pool complete with live bass so you can see the bass' reaction to various lure presentations.

The IBO 3-D Indoor World Qualifier will see bowmen from the entire northeast competing in the largest indoor shoot in the nation. The Second World Qualifier at Outdoors Northeast is expected to be larger than last year's record shoot, according to shootmaster Bob Verrier (who will be working with Ted Laborde, Line chairman).

Boone and Crockett, Pope and Young winner, Zig Kertenis of Woods Wise, will talk on deer calling. It will be Joe Judd of Quaker Boy on advanced turkey calling.

Local leading flytyers, Al Niemiec of Native American and Manny D'Silva, will be tying for beginners to experts.

Other action involves a simulated bow hunt where shooters will pull a string on a variety of big game animals moving through a natural environment on a video range.

There will be a broad offering of fishing and hunting outfitters, guides and lodges, salt and fresh water charters, along with the latest in equipment, art, and more. All will be at prices that will not be offered elsewhere during the rest of the year.

Clubs interested in purchasing blocks of tickets at pre-show prices can contact OSEG by calling or writing to (413) 594-2085, 154 Grove Street, P.O. Box 406, Chicopee, MA 01021, or faxing to (413) 594-2284.

The show hours will be Thursday, February 22nd, 3:00 to 10:00 p.m.; Friday, February 23rd, 1:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 24th, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Sunday, February 25th, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tickets remain at \$8 for adults for the sixth consecutive year, \$3 for kids ages six to 12, and kids five and under will be admitted free.

Vermont's 1995 Deer Hunt Is Successful

Totals were 5,046 for the October and December archery season, and 10,936 bucks in November. The December muzzleloader season resulted in 687 bucks with three-inch or longer antlers, and 1,447 antlerless deer being taken.

"It's easy to see the benefits of fall foods and a mild winter in improving winter survival for deer," said wildlife biologist John Buck.

During the opening weekend of the November buck season, 1,174 bucks were weighed, and it was found that 70 percent of the sample were yearlings.

Fenton's Athletic Supplies To Host Baseball/Softball Show On Feb. 18th

Fenton's Athletic Supplies, Inc., will be hosting a baseball/softball show on Sunday, February 18th, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. at its Springfield location (826 Main Street).

See the newest and best uniforms, equipment, and footwear. Manufacturers' representatives from the companies you see the "pros" wear will

be on hand to answer your questions.

There will also be information on training drills, warm-up exercises, etc. This event will be great for coaches, team buyers, and athletes.

The show is free and open to the public. For more information, call 732-6700 (ask for Kathy or Kris).

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AAA Piranhas Lose To Springfield Team

The Agawam AA Piranhas swim team lost against the Springfield team by a score of 440-451 on January 26, 1996 at Kiley Middle School. The results included:

Girls 8 & under:

The team of Sarah Roos, Julie Wills, Megan Lalli, and Julie Gorman placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Jessica Lalli, Johannah Kos, Tammy Gorman, and Leean Morytko placed second in the 100-yard medley relay.

Johannah Kos, second in 100-yard individual medley; Julie Gorman, third in 25-yard freestyle; Tammy Gorman, third in 25-yard butterfly; Leean Morytko, second, and Jessica Lalli, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jessica Lalli, first, Leean Morytko, second, and Julie Gorman, third in 25-yard backstroke; Caitlin Hurley, third in 25-yard breaststroke.

Boys 8 & under:

The team of Erik Deliefde, Benjamin Bruso, Jeffrey Lagasse, and Shaun Bruso placed first in the 100-yard medley relay.

Benjamin Bruso, first in 100-yard individual medley; Shaun Bruso, first, and Connor Dooley, second in 25-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Shaun Bruso, second in 25-yard butterfly; Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Erik Deliefde, second in 50-yard freestyle; Erik Deliefde, first, and Connor Dooley, third in 25-yard backstroke; Benjamin Bruso, first in 25-yard breaststroke.

Girls 9-10:

The team of Katie Gorman, Angela Vinton, Leigh Stepanian, and Allison Morris placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and the team of Erin Milillo, Irena Klimczak, Meagan Sasen, and Kristyn Ward placed second.

The team of Brittany Theriaque, Bethany Reid, Jillian Kos, and Katie Gorman placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Jillian Kos, first, and Bethany Reid, second in 100-yard individual medley; Katie Gorman, second, and Meagan Sasen, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jillian Kos, first, and Allison Morris, third in 50-yard butterfly; Brittany Theriaque, third in 100-yard freestyle; Brittany Theriaque, first, and Leigh Stepanian, third in 50-yard backstroke; Bethany Reid, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 9-10:

The team of Michael Lalli, Tom Gorman, Paul Lagasse, and Laurence Rocke placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Paul Lagasse, second, and Tom Gorman, third in 100-yard individual medley; Laurence Rocke, first, and Michael Lalli, second in 50-yard freestyle; Paul Lagasse, second in 50-yard butterfly; Daniel Adamski, first, and Laurence Rocke, second in 100-yard freestyle; Daniel Adamski, first, and Michael Lalli, second in 50-yard backstroke; Tom Gorman, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 11-12:

The team of Christina Climo, Kaitlin Morris, Lisa Niedziela, and Rebecca Morytko placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Rachel Morris, Heather Scarlett, Hilary Golas, and Christina O'Brien placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Hilary Golas, second, and Kyleigh Egan, third in 200-yard individual medley; Christina O'Brien, first, and Heather Scarlett, third in 200-yard freestyle; Lisa Niedziela, third in 50-yard freestyle; Hilary Golas, second in 50-yard butterfly; Christina Climo, third in 100-yard freestyle; Christina O'Brien, first, and Rebecca Morytko, third in 50-yard backstroke; Heather Scarlett, second, and Ashley King, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 11-12:

Nathan Adamski, second in 200-yard freestyle, and third in 50-yard backstroke.

Girls 13-14:

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Hilary King, Erika Dowd, Katie Gallagher, and Melissa Sparver placed second.

In the 200-yard medley relay, the team of Sarah Nacewicz, Katherine Chmura, Allison Pisano, and Shannon Costa placed first.

Allison Pisano, second in 200-yard individual medley; Melissa Sparver, first, and Allison Pisano, second in 200-yard freestyle; Shannon Costa, first in 50-yard freestyle; Shannon Costa, second in 100-yard butterfly; Katherine Chmura, first in 100-yard freestyle; Sarah Nacewicz, first in 100-yard backstroke; Katherine Chmura, second, and Lauren Kunkler, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

Boys 13-14:

In the 200-yard medley relay, the team of Joel Ward, Thomas Casiello, Jeffrey Rivkin, and Matthew Francis placed first.

Jeffrey Rivkin, first in 200-yard individual medley; Thomas Casiello, first in 200-yard freestyle; Matthew Francis, first in 50-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Rivkin, first in 100-yard butterfly; Joel Ward, first, and Matthew Francis, third in 100-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Rivkin, first, and Joel Ward, second in 100-yard backstroke; Thomas Casiello, first in 100-yard breaststroke.

Agawam Babe Ruth Sign-Ups Slated For Sat., February 10th

Sign-ups will be held on Saturday, February 10th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for all those interested in playing baseball in the 1996 season of the Agawam Babe Ruth League. The location for the sign-ups is the Faolin Peirce Room, which is located in the rear of the Agawam Police Station on Springfield Street.

The fee for signing up is \$70 per player. Those who played in the league last year must still sign up again. The league is open to all players who turn 13 on or before August 1, 1996, and 16 after August 1, 1996.

For questions or conflicts concerning the above schedule, please contact Bill Walsh at 786-7701 or John DeBonville at 786-3588.

Check our classified

AHS Ski Parents Plan Feb. 10th Dance

The Agawam High School Ski Team Parents' Association will sponsor a dance party on Saturday, February 10, 1996, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Polish Club in Feeding Hills.

Tickets will be sold at the door at the cost of \$5 per person. Live entertainment will be provided.

Please bring your own snacks and desserts. Please come out and support this worthy cause.

Agawam Little League Slates More Sign-Ups

Due to the snowstorm last Friday night and into Saturday morning, the Agawam Little League will hold one last sign-up for the 1996 spring/summer baseball season.

The sign-up will be held on Monday, February 12th, at the Agawam Middle School cafeteria from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Athletic Association Baseball & Softball Sign-ups

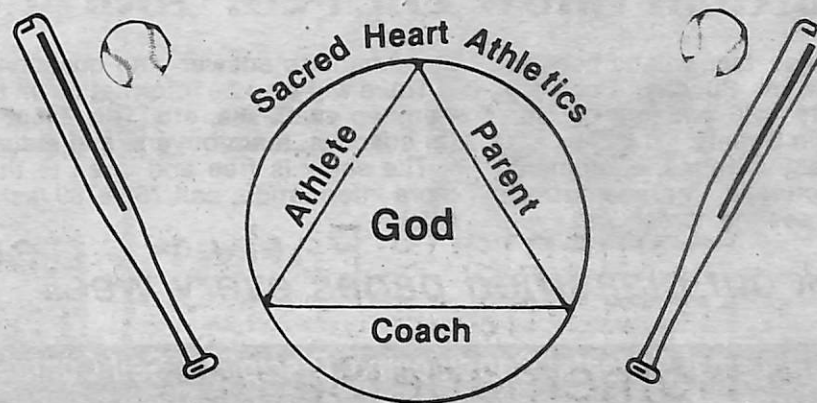
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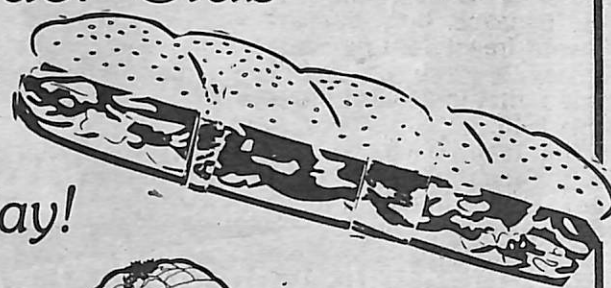
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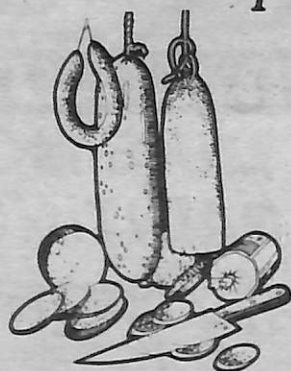
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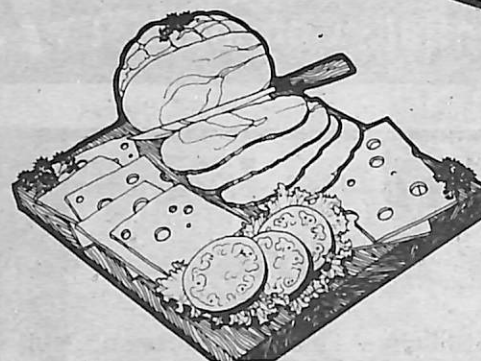
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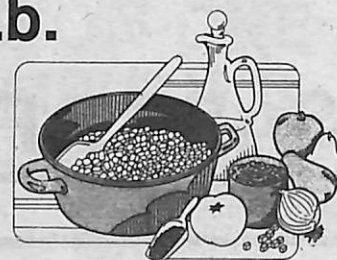
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WYMAN'S VCR REPAIR: TVs, VCRs, Computer Monitors, & Camcorders. All makes and models. Factory trained, licensed technician. 789-2835.

FAMILY DAY CARE: Full-time, nutritious meals and snacks, large play room and yard, reading, arts, music, exercise, age-appropriate activities tailored to individual's requirements. References available. Linda, 789-0881. License no. 171137.

PAUL'S TREE SERVICE: Removal, pruning, planting, stump grinding, lot clearing, trimming hedges, cabling and bracing, lightning protection. Neat clean-up (no mess left). Call Paul Cocchi, 733-7520.

LICENSED DAYCARE: 10 yrs. exp. Full-time opening. River Road. Ref. available. Meals & snacks included. Huge fenced-in yard. Lots of toys. Hours open - 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. \$100 week. License number 176836. Call Kathy at 789-6769.

CARPENTER: Small jobs to custom homes. Honest work at today's prices. Senior discounts and free estimates. Call Stephen Gould, 786-6887.

TAX RETURN PREPARATION: Individuals & businesses. Weekends & evening appts. available. Call early. Christine A. Rice, CPA, 786-9228.

LOUISE'S FAMILY CHILDCARE: Has full time openings, all ages. Child safe environment, crafts, home-made meals, large yard, lots of educational and recreational toys. Lic. No. 71474. PEACE OF MIND WHILE YOU WORK. Call 789-1178.

BASEMENT REPAIRS: Walls, floors, cracks, hatchways—water proofing & damp proofing. Licensed, insured, 15 years experience. Call (413) 789-1626.

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AGAWAM AREA—FAMILY DAYCARE: A warm and friendly family Daycare has openings. CPR/FA certified. Flexible hours/reasonable rates. References. License no. 175320. Call Donna, 789-4162.

WANTED

PART-TIME SALES Telemarketing help wanted. Hours: 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. or 5:00-8:00 p.m. FOR APPOINTMENT, CALL 786-3155 after 11:00 a.m.

HELP WANTED: Hairdresser—nail technician at busy Feeding Hills salon. Experienced person. Full- or part-time. Call 789-6369.

LOOKING FOR ASSISTANCE: In readying my multihandicapped daughter of 10 for school from Monday to Friday at 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Other hours of care could arise also. My assistant would substitute running my Family Day-Care as the need arose after she became licensed, as well. Call 786-3371 in Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.

WANTED: Looking to share a house. Need 2 bedrooms w/kit. priv. Or looking for 2 bedroom apt. in Agawam. Call Ramah Realty before 7:00 p.m., 781-1180.

HELP WANTED: Work from home marketing nutritional Health Care products. Excellent income potential. P.T., F.T. training available. Call 789-6023.

HELP WANTED: Earn up to \$500 per week assembling products at home. No experience. INFO 1-504-646-1700 DEPT. MA-1216

PERSONAL

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Sacred Heart, help of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude for granting my petition. RS

PETS

FREE KITTENS: Black and white. Call 786-8280.

FOR SALE

ITEMS FOR SALE: Day Care/Preschool toys, puzzles & craft supplies, and other items (too many to list). Couch & matching chair (colonial flower pattern, \$175). Call 789-2554.

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